TWILIGHT TALES

KING OF BANDITS

王ドロボウJING™

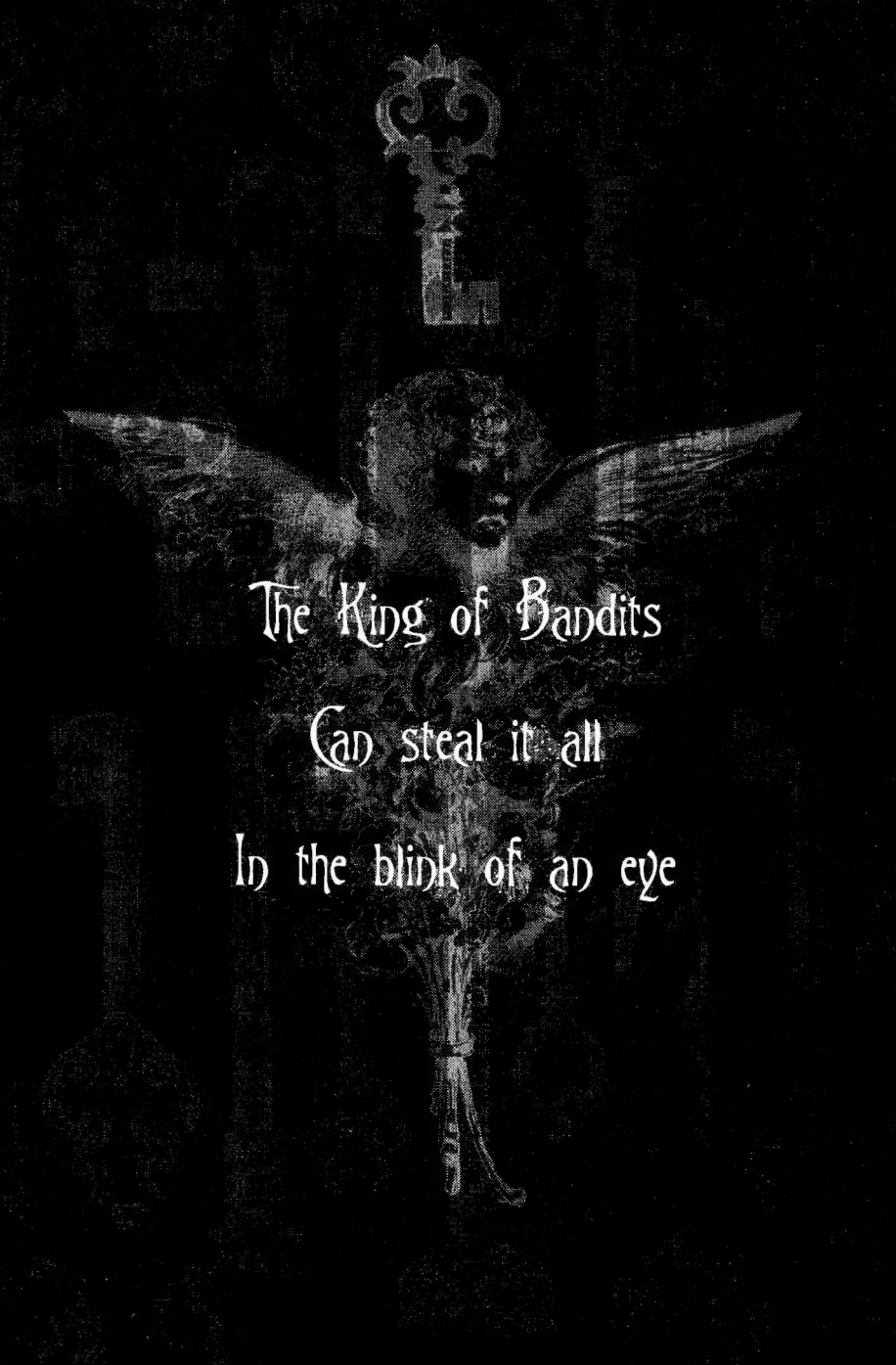
YUICHI KUMAKURA

All that glitters...

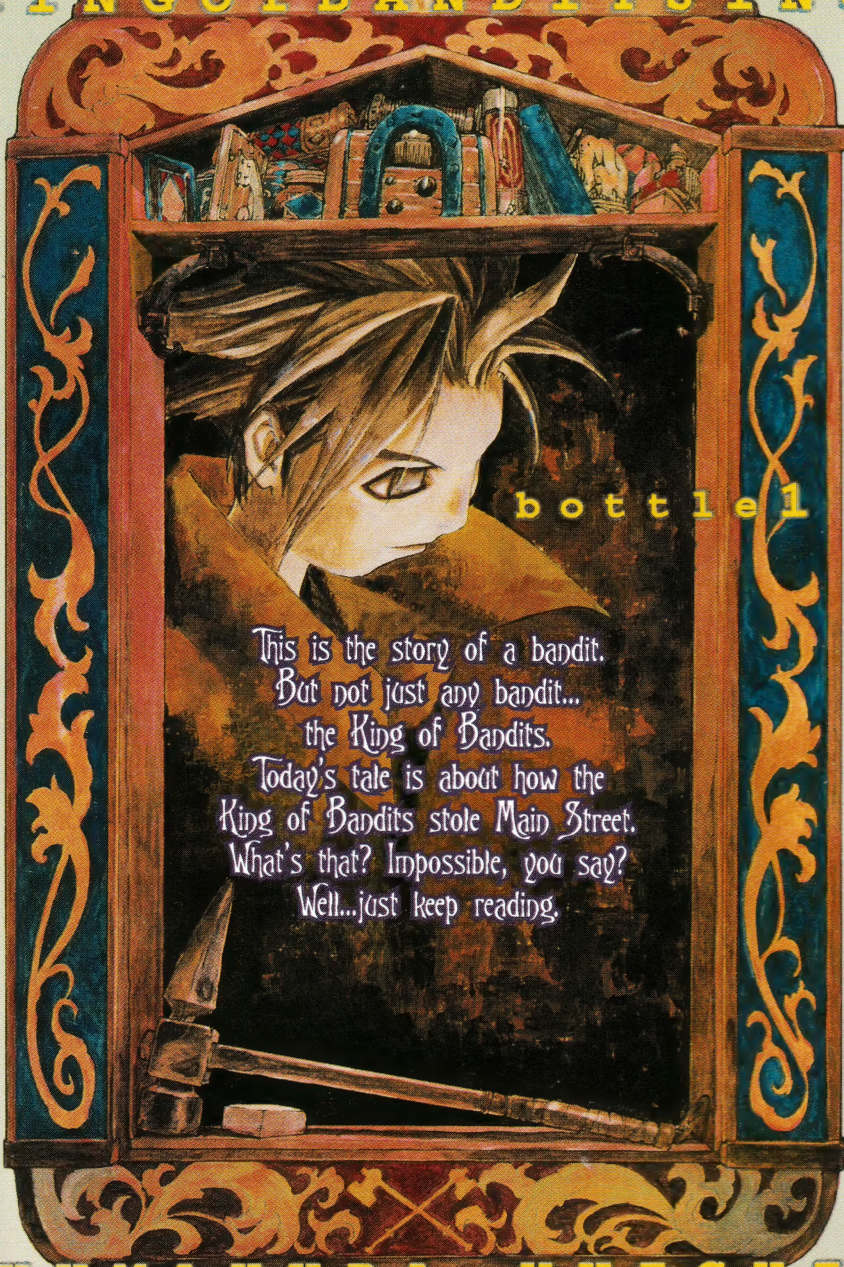
Even the stars

All things precious...

Even your life


The King of Bandits
Can steal it all
In the blink of an eye

KiNGofBANDiTJiNG


bottle 1
This is the story of a bandit.
But not just any bandit...
the King of Bandits.
Today's tale is about how the
King of Bandits stole Main Street.
What's that? Impossible, you say?
Well...just keep reading.

KUMAKURA YUICHI

KiNG of BANDiTjiNG

楽園のこどもたち前編

1st shot

Les enfants du paradis #1

(The Children of Paradise - Part 1)

SOB...SOB...OH...KUMMEL...
GRAPHIC
WE BROUGHT ALL YOUR FAVORITE TOYS...
HE WAS A MAN OF STEEL.
MAGAZIN Z
BLACK MU-10
A TRUE GUARDIAN TO OUR FAIR CITY OF CZARINE.
...PLEASE...PLAY WITH THEM IN THE NEXT WORLD...!
SOB...
AND WE FEEL MUCH SADNESS AT HIS LOSS...

VOLUME 1 OF 6

STORY AND ART BY
YUICHI KUMAKURA

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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JING: KING OF BANDITS

TWILIGHT TALES

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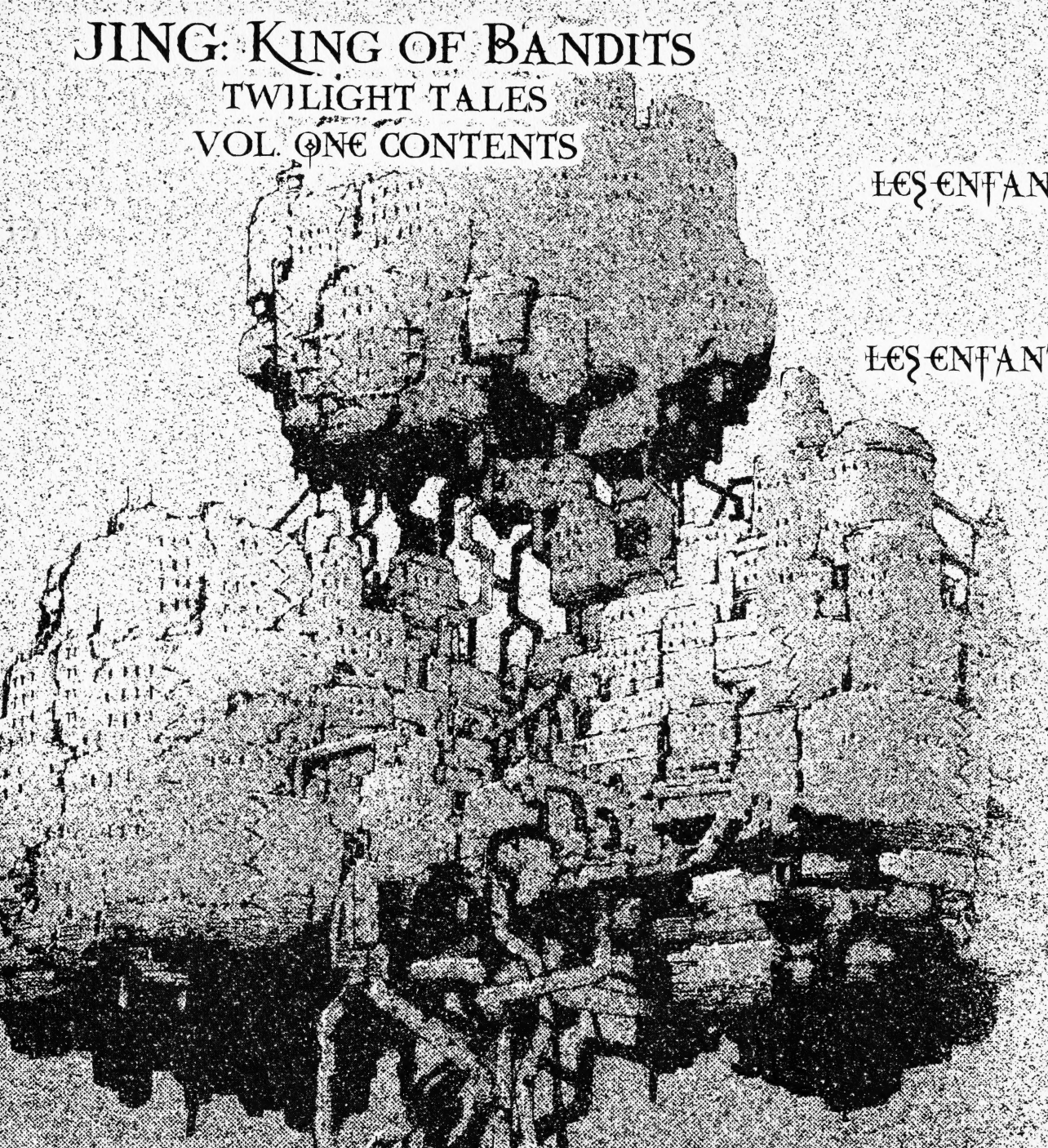

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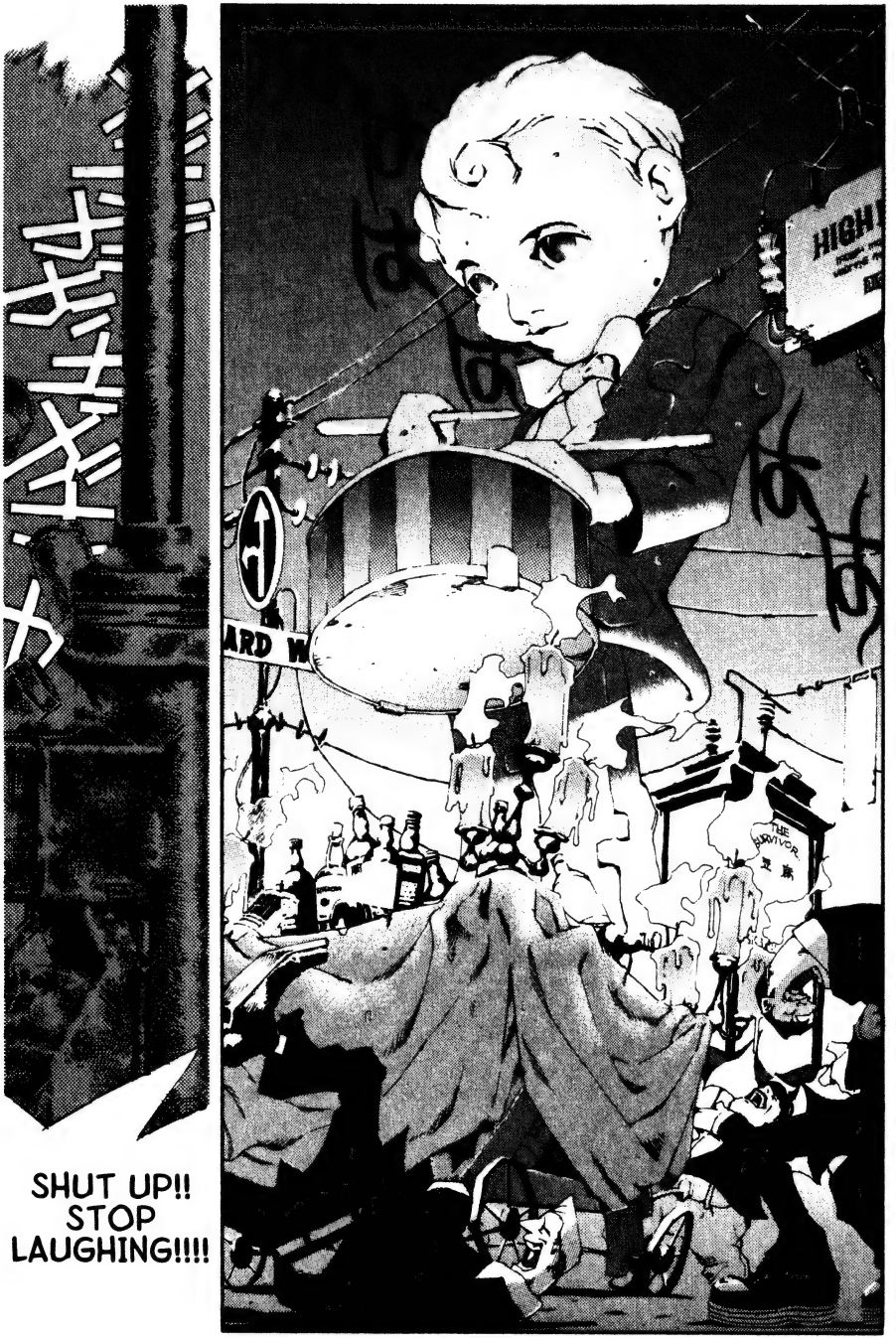
Once upon a midnight dreary, a thief named Jing was weak and weary.
Many strange and forgotten lands he did traverse and explore.
His companion was a bird named Kir, his black wings a-flapping.
While Jing nodded, nearly napping, Kir saw booty galore.
"Wake up, Jing," Kir muttered, "all around us is loot galore."
Treasure from ceiling to floor!

Thus, this ebony bird's wiling, sent Jing's sad face into smiling,
For Jing could steal the stars from the sky, thievery he truly did adore.
The albatross sat proudly on Jing's placid bust, his beady eyes did implore,
One more thing Kir did utter, his feathers all a greedy flutter, his voice a roar,
Quoth the albatross, "Let's steal some more!"

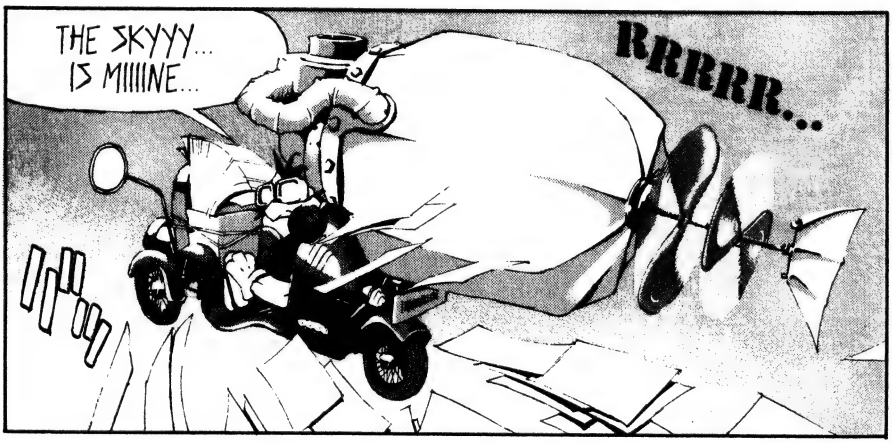
NOW...LET US PLEASE OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE...
OUR SORROW IS DEEPER THAN ANY MINE DUG WITHIN THIS CITY'S WALLS.
TAP TAP TAP...
MINERAL MINESTRONE
...FOR OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL...NOW RETURNED TO HEAVEN!!
HA HA.
BWAH-HA-HA!
HA HA HA HA.
HEHE HEHEHE...

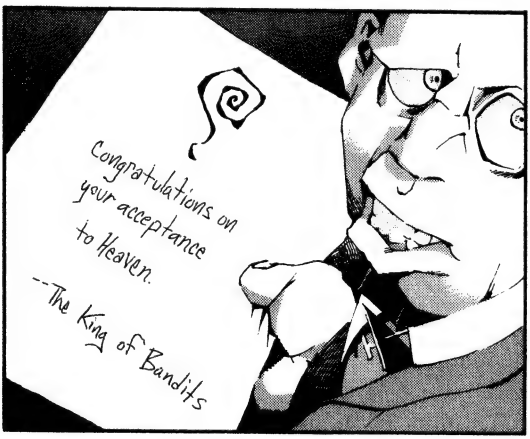
BWA HA HA HA!
TEE HEE HEE!
HAHAHA!
HIHIHI!
UHE HE HE HE...
GAHA HA HA HA!
PFFFT.
A HA HA HA HA HA HA!
HEH.
HEH.
GIGGLE GIGGLE GIGGLE GIGGLE!
A HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
HE HE HE HE HE HEH!
WHEE HEE HEE HEE HEE!
BLA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
O HO HO HO HO HO HO!


SHUT UP!!
STOP
LAUGHING!!!!

HEALTH FOOD
SOY MUS
PSSH
WHO BROUGHT THIS?!!!
A bag of laughs?!
BAHAAHAHA!
YOU THINK THIS IS FUNNY?!
KRAK
CLUNK
....?

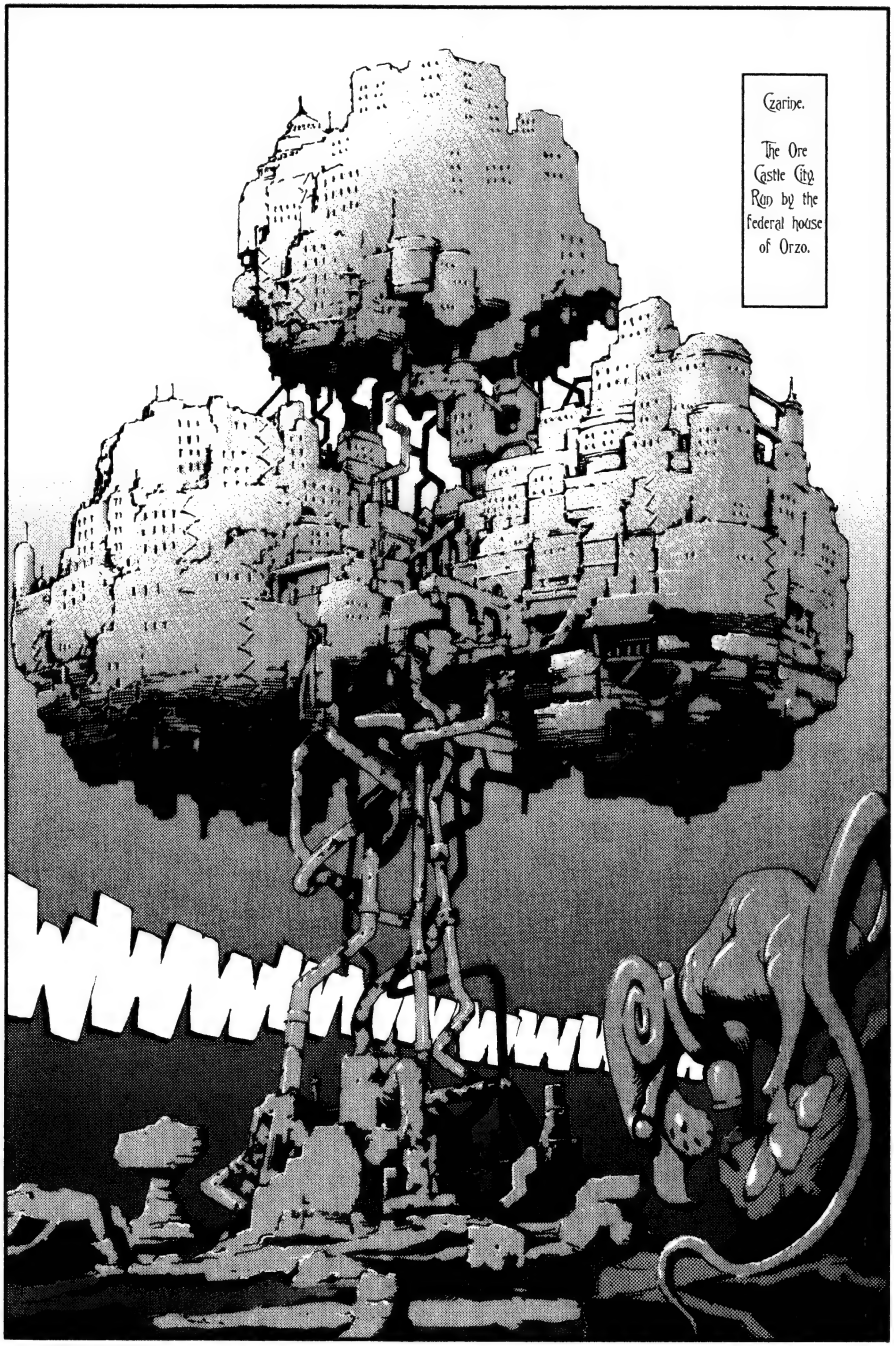
WHAT IS THIS--?!


THE SKYYY... IS MIIIINE...
RRRRR...


Congratulations on your acceptance to Heaven.
--The King of Bandits

WHO TOOK IT?! SHOW YOURSELF!!
HEY!!
THE BOSS'S LIQUID CRYSTAL EGG--IT'S GONE!
eye SCREAM

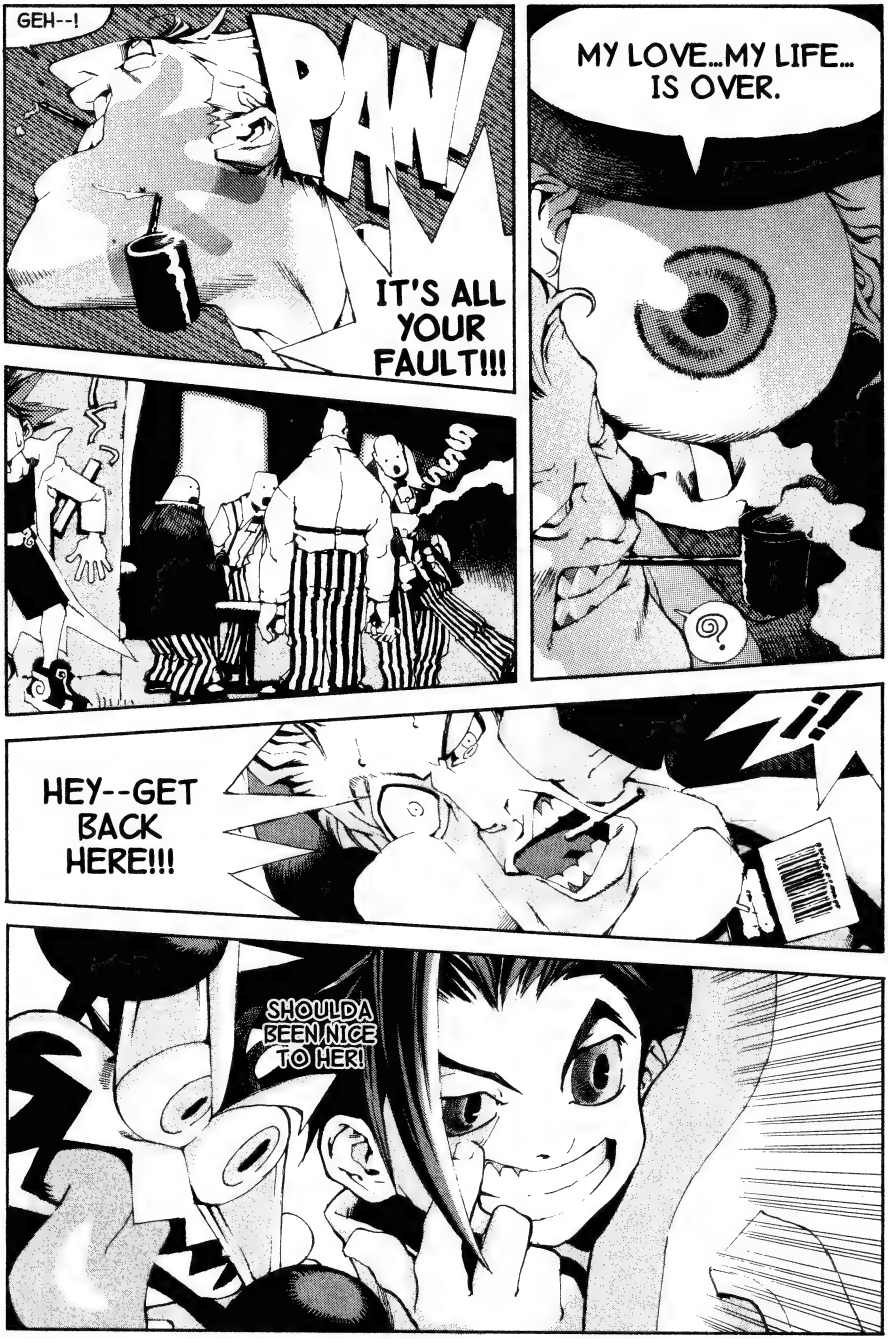
I HATE FUNERALS...
...AND NOISY FUNERALS ARE THE WORST.

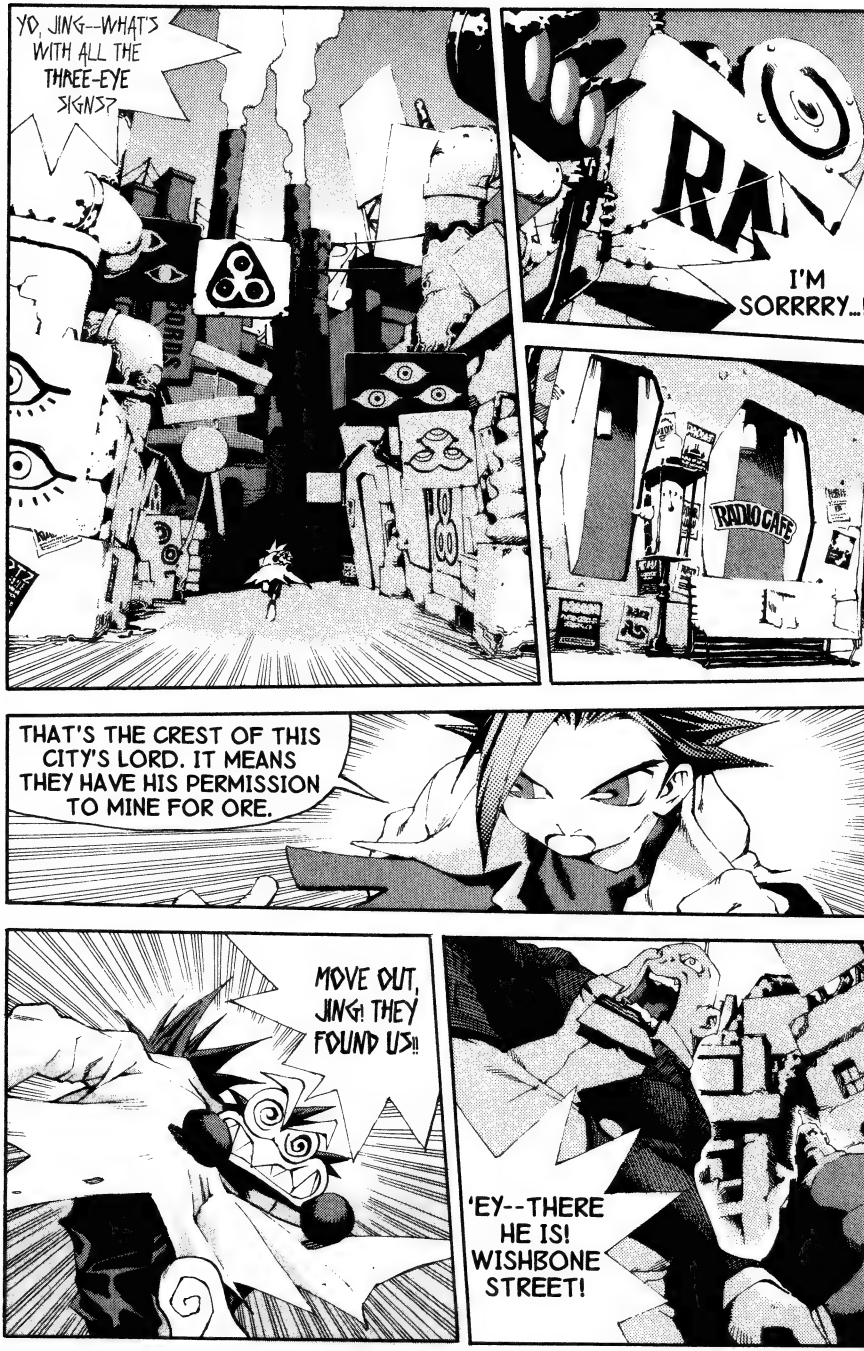

Czarine.
The Ore Castle City Run by the federal house of Orzo.

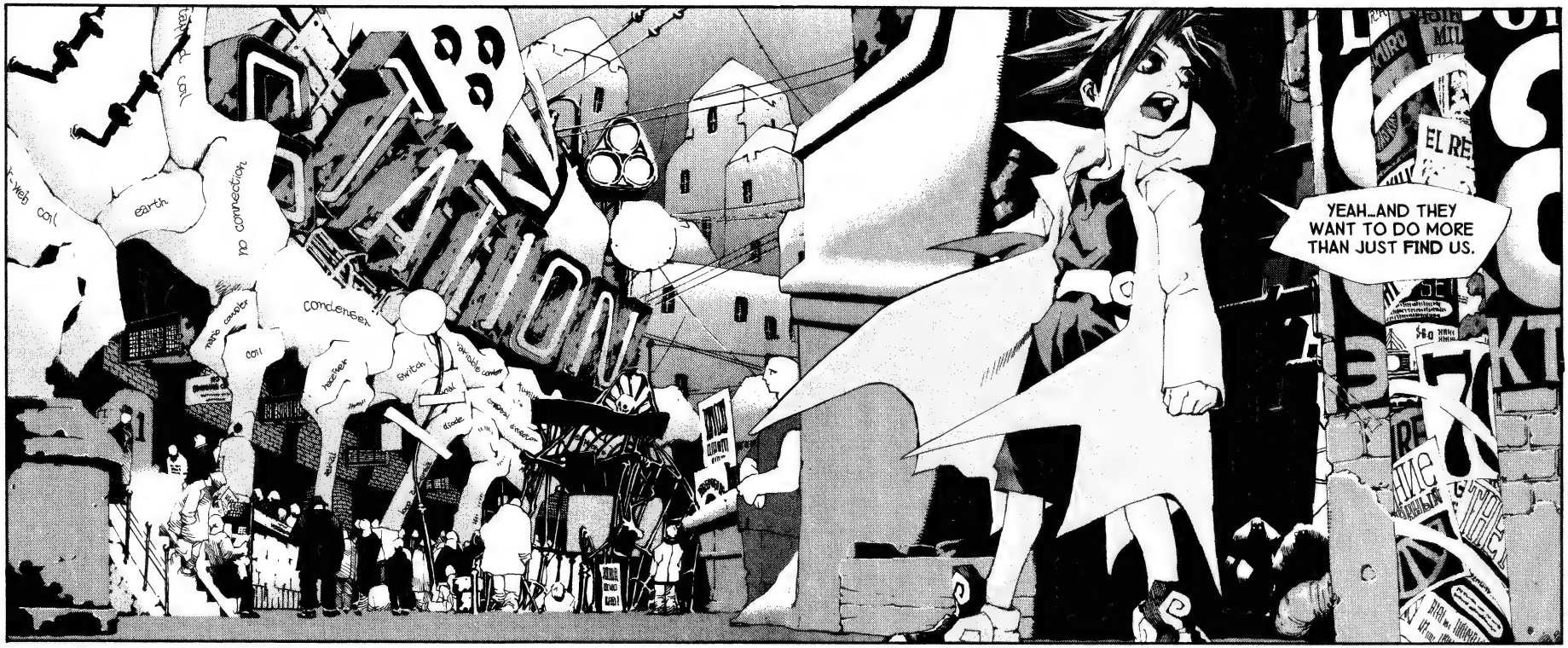
A CITY WITH ORE AND A CASTLE, I'D THINK.
ORE CASTLE CITY? WHAT'S THAT S'POSED TO MEAN?
...AND THAT PHONE? THIS CITY WAS BUILT ON THE STUFF THAT MADE BOTH OF 'EM.
YOU'RE SO CRUEL...
SEE THIS EGG...
REMEMBER WHEN YOU ONLY HAD EYES FOR ME?!

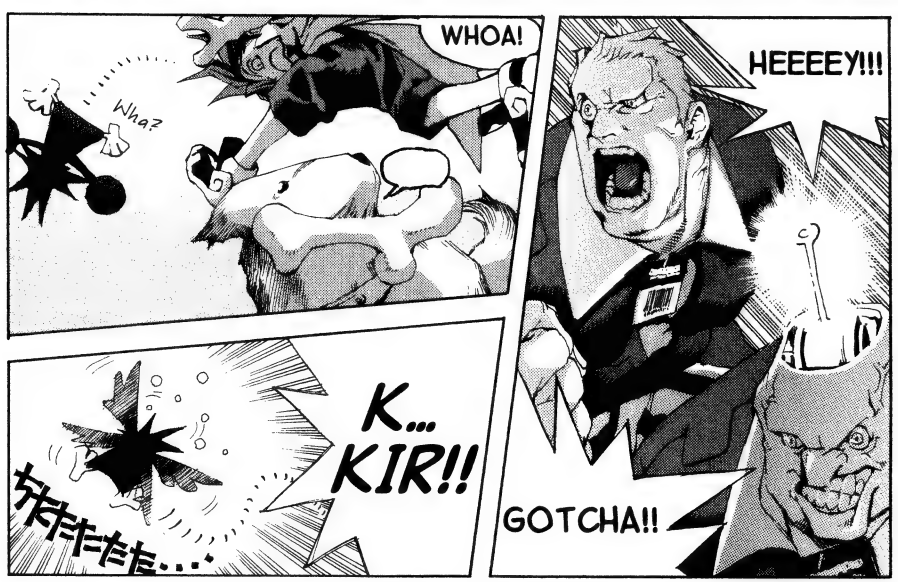
I AIN'T INTO COLLECTIN' CORPSES OF MY OWN KIND!
BUT--JING--DID WE REALLY COME ALL THIS WAY TO STEAL A FOSSILIZED EGG?!
OF COURSE NOT, KIR... SOMETHING MUCH GREATER IS IN STORE.
Booooooooooooooooo_
Booooooooooo_
HELLO?
HELLO?!

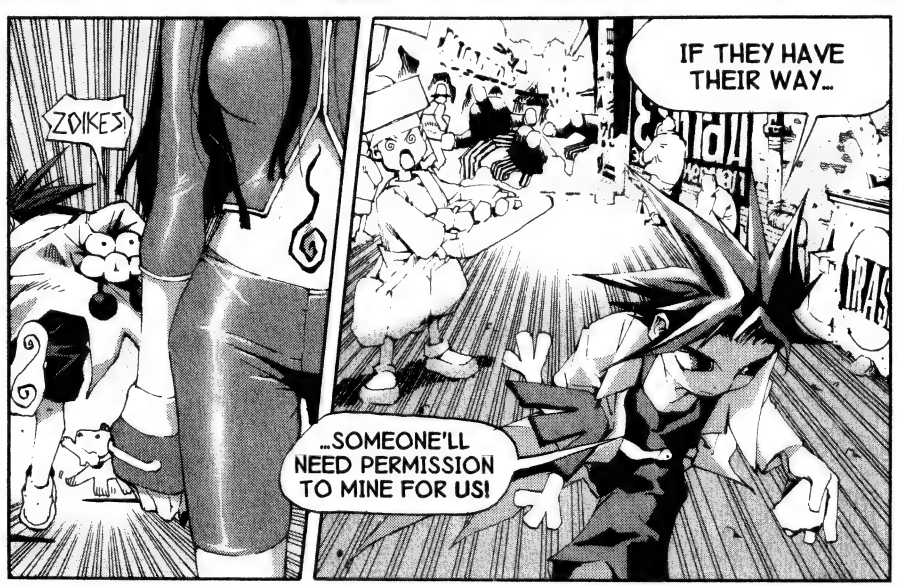
KRAAK
TAP
TAP
TAP
..WE'RE GIVIN' YEH ONE CHANCE TO BEG DA' BAWSS FOR MERCY.
AWRIGHT, KID..
!?


GEH--!
PAN!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!!!
MY LOVE...MY LIFE... IS OVER.
?
HEY--GET BACK HERE!!!
SHOULDA BEEN NICE TO HER!


YO, JING--WHAT'S WITH ALL THE THREE-EYE SIGNS?
I'M SORRRRY...!!
RADIO CAFE
THAT'S THE CREST OF THIS CITY'S LORD. IT MEANS THEY HAVE HIS PERMISSION TO MINE FOR ORE.
MOVE OUT, JING! THEY FOUND US!!
'EY--THERE HE IS! WISHBONE STREET!


YEAH..AND THEY WANT TO DO MORE THAN JUST FIND US.
earth
no connection
condensex
coil
heather
switch
diode

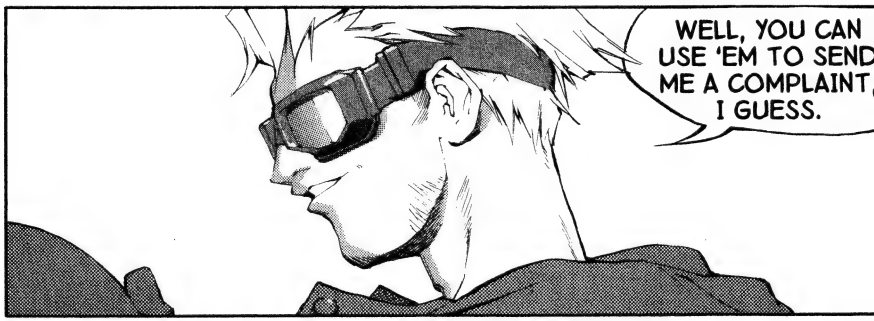

WHOA!
Wha?
K... KIR!!
HEEEEY!!!
GOTCHA!!

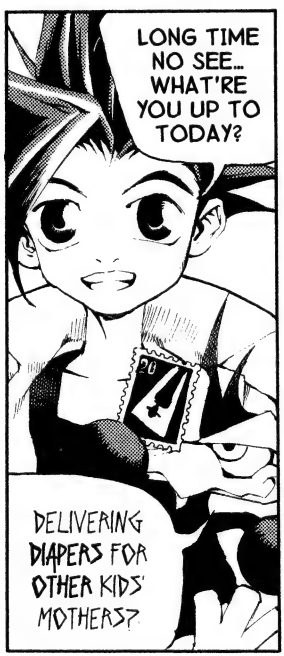

ZOIKES!
IF THEY HAVE THEIR WAY...
...SOMEONE'LL NEED PERMISSION TO MINE FOR US!

ROYALE!!!
!

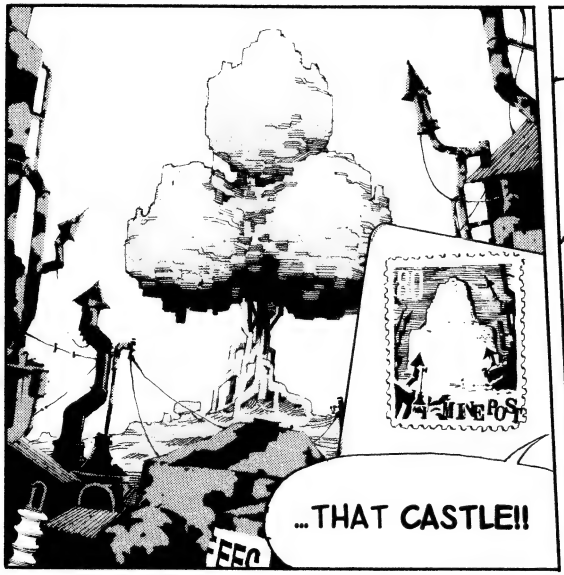
KABOOM!
EUROP
JUST TO PREVENT ANY ACCIDENTS...
OOPS.
JING--YOU THREW ME ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU?
PRIVA
TE
CRASH!
YOU'RE ALLLL MIIINE NOW!

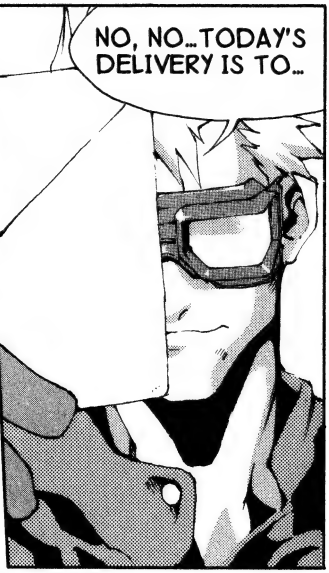
AW, MAN... RUINED MY MERCH!


WELL, YOU CAN USE 'EM TO SEND ME A COMPLAINT, I GUESS.

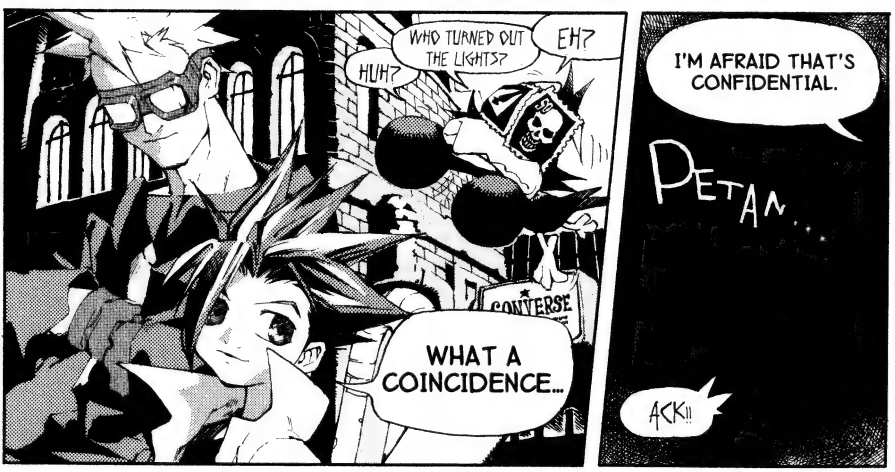

LONG TIME NO SEE... WHAT'RE YOU UP TO TODAY?
DELIVERING DIAPERS FOR OTHER KIDS' MOTHERS?

OH--YEAH! YOU'RE THAT UNLICENSED POSTMAN MY MOM SENT--
HEY, NOW. UNLICENSED IS A PRETTY STRONG WORD...


...THAT CASTLE!!

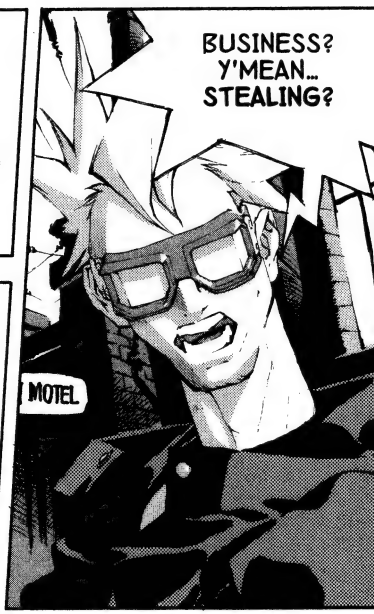

NO, NO...TODAY'S DELIVERY IS TO...

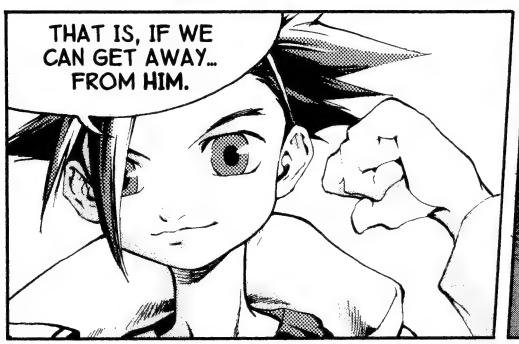
OOH---NICE PENMANSHIP! IS IT A LOVE LETTER FROM A PRETTY LADY??


WHAT A COINCIDENCE...
HUH?
WHO TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS?
EH?
I'M AFRAID THAT'S CONFIDENTIAL.
PETAN...
ACK!!

WE HAVE BUSINESS THERE, TOO.

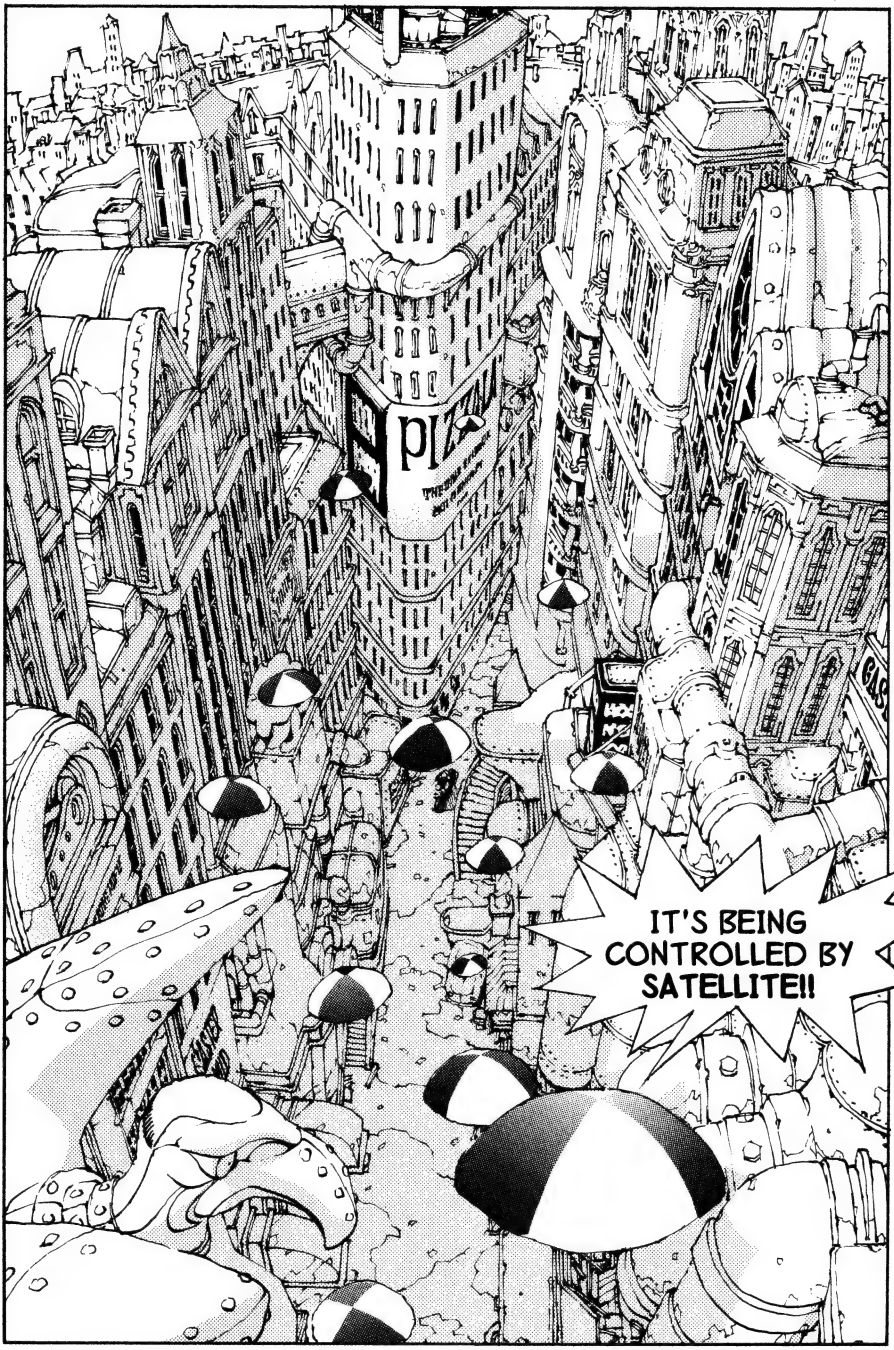
ベリ ベリ
ベリ ベリ
HUH? WHOA! REALLY, JING?!


BUSINESS? Y'MEAN... STEALING?
MOTEL


THAT IS, IF WE CAN GET AWAY... FROM HIM.

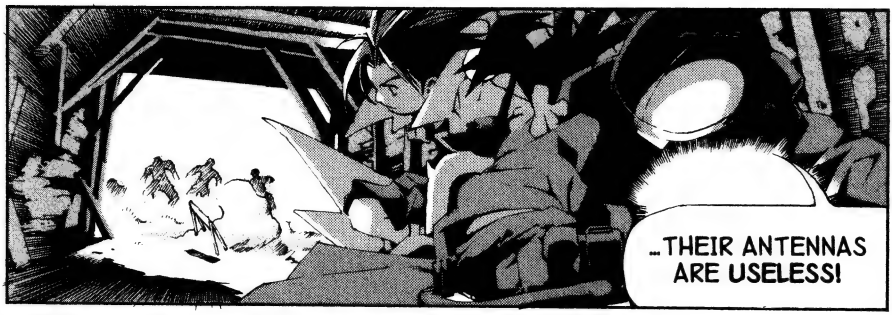
FESTIVAL
STREET 661 RECORD SHOP
CHAKA!
BUS ST
I'm too young to die on this job.
PP RRRRRD
BANG

HEY--THAT RADIO-CONTROLLED FREAK ISN'T FOLLOWING!
WHATSA MATTA? WE OUT OF YOUR RANGE?!
!!?
RRRRR


IT'S BEING CONTROLLED BY SATELLITE!!

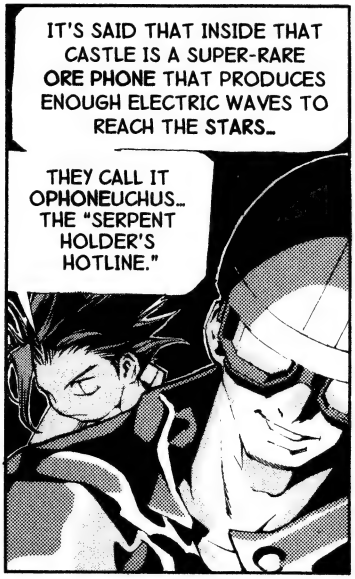
CLICK
BANG!
If the navy's move that far...
THEN WE'LL HAVE TO GO SOMEWHERE THEY CAN'T REACH US.
THEY COULD CHASE US TO THE MOON!
THUD
GAH!
SCREECH

INSIDE THE MAGNETIC FIELDS OF THIS QUARRY...
RRRRRRRR
CAUTION

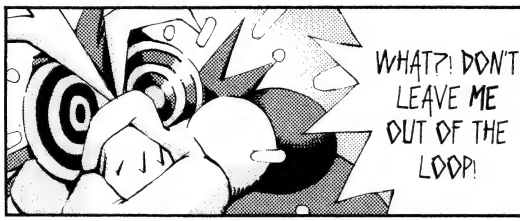

...THEIR ANTENNAS ARE USELESS!

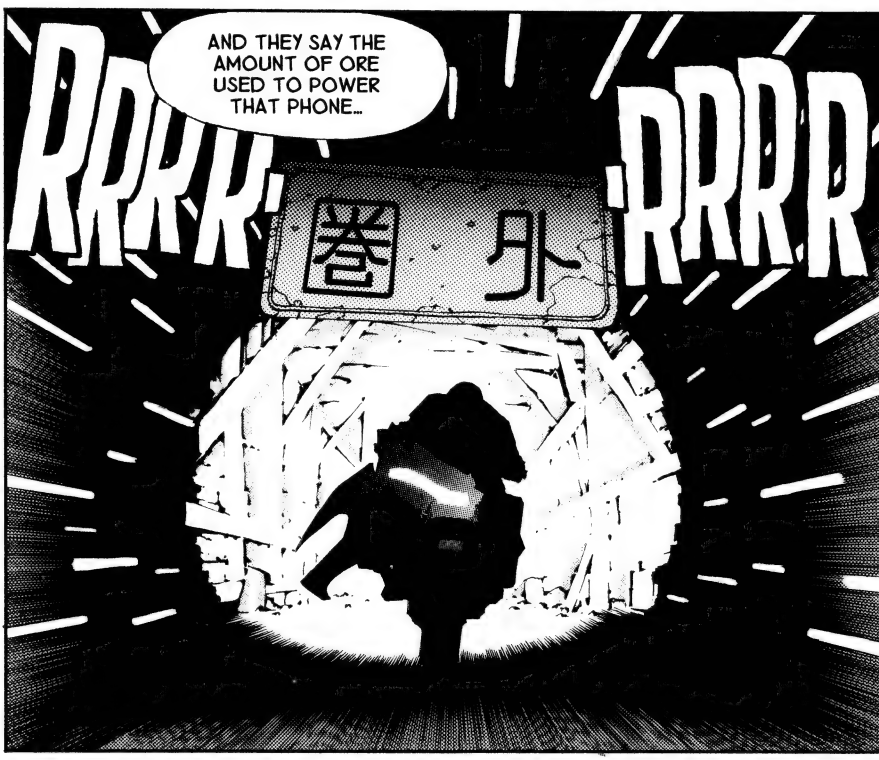
BY THE WAY...I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFTER.

DAMN IT!


IT'S SAID THAT INSIDE THAT CASTLE IS A SUPER-RARE ORE PHONE THAT PRODUCES ENOUGH ELECTRIC WAVES TO REACH THE STARS...
THEY CALL IT OPHONEUCHUS... THE "SERPENT HOLDER'S HOTLINE."

Is that so?

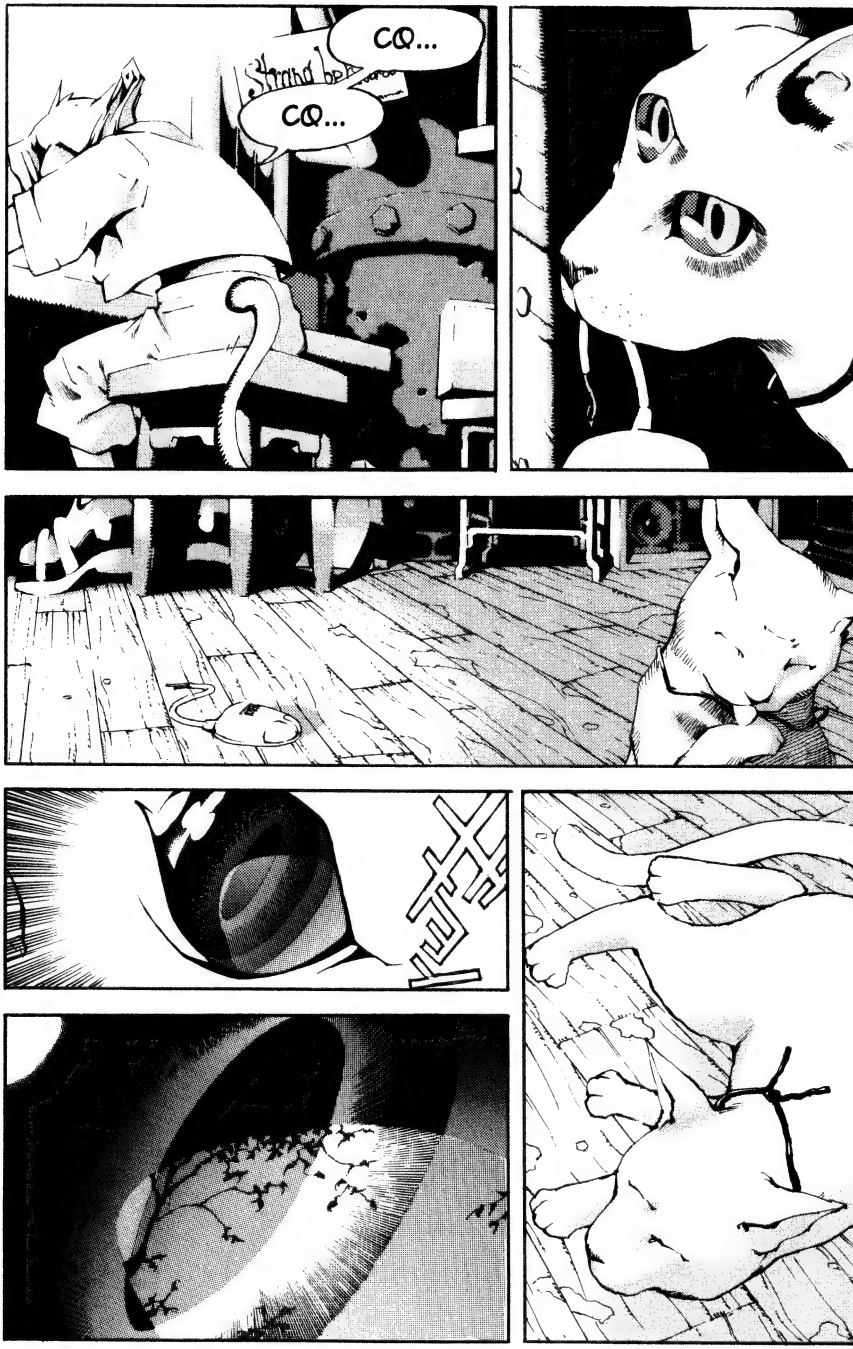

WHAT?! DON'T LEAVE ME OUT OF THE LOOP!


AND THEY SAY THE AMOUNT OF ORE USED TO POWER THAT PHONE...
RRRR
RRRR
圈外

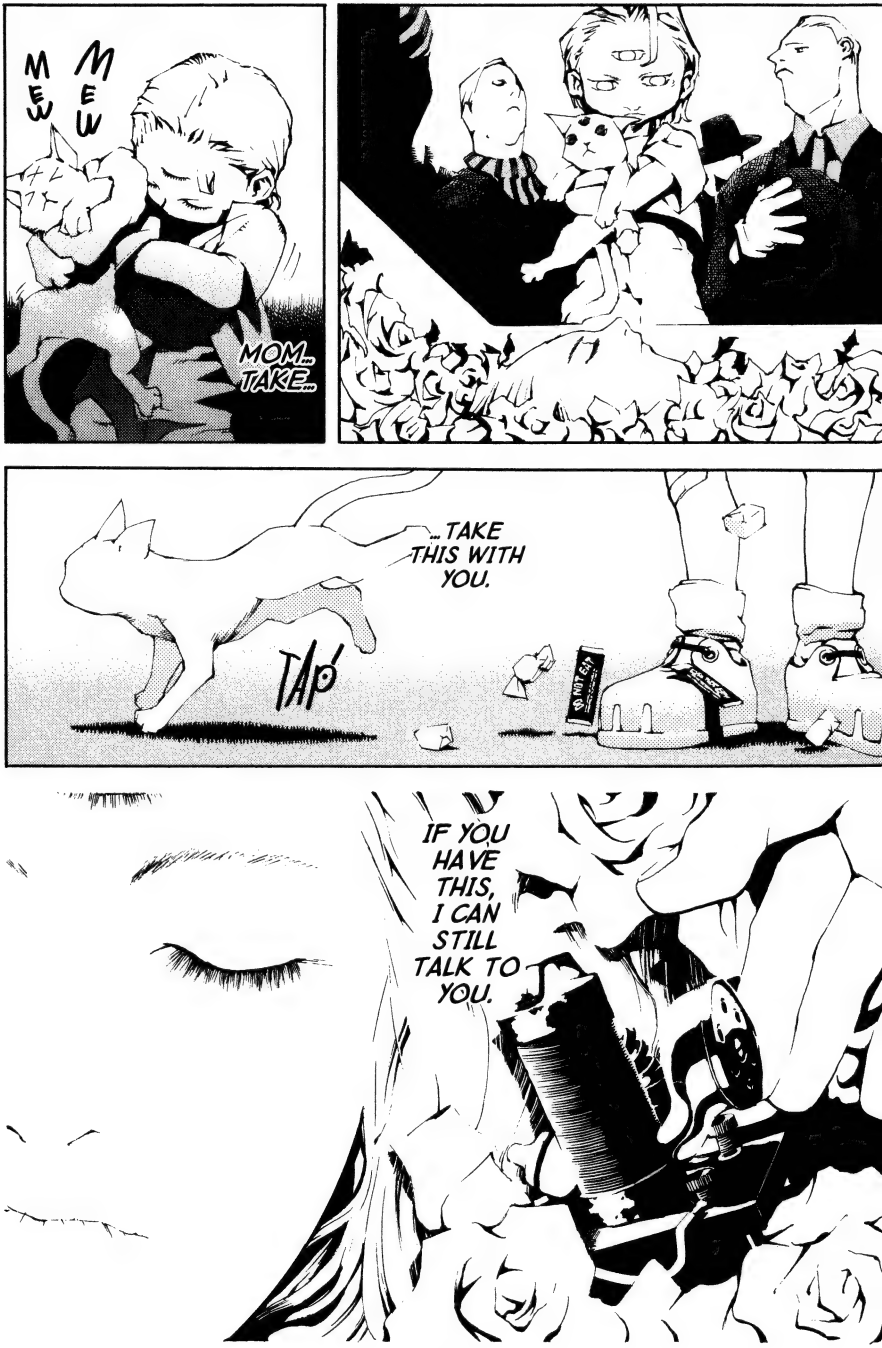
...IS VALUABLE ENOUGH TO BUY THIS WHOLE CITY.

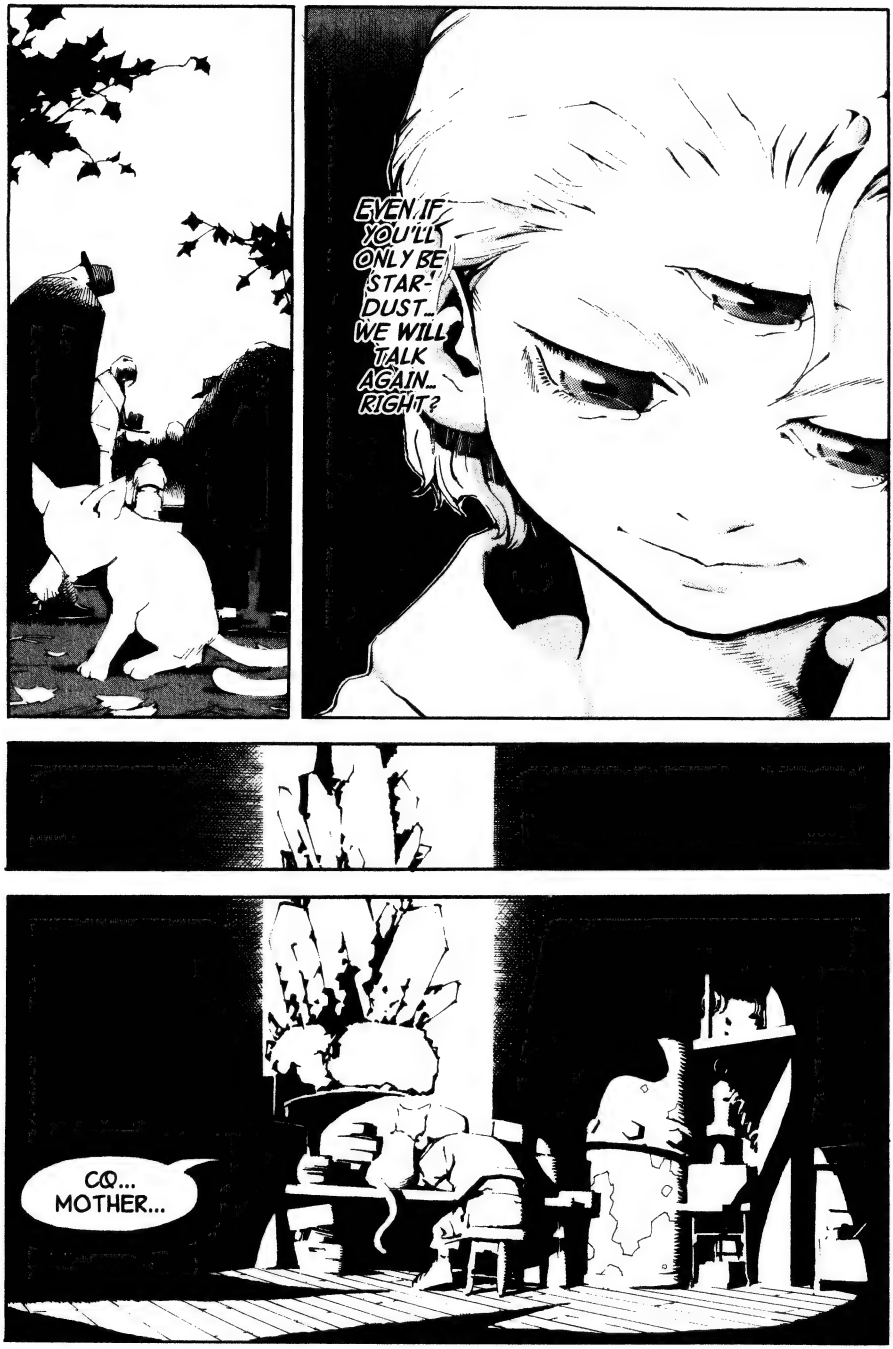
LOVE IS BLIND
Strong behavior

PARADISE
CQ....
CQ....
MOTHER, MOTHER...PLEASE RESPOND...
IT'S ORZO. PLEASE...ANSWER ME, MOTHER...
meow

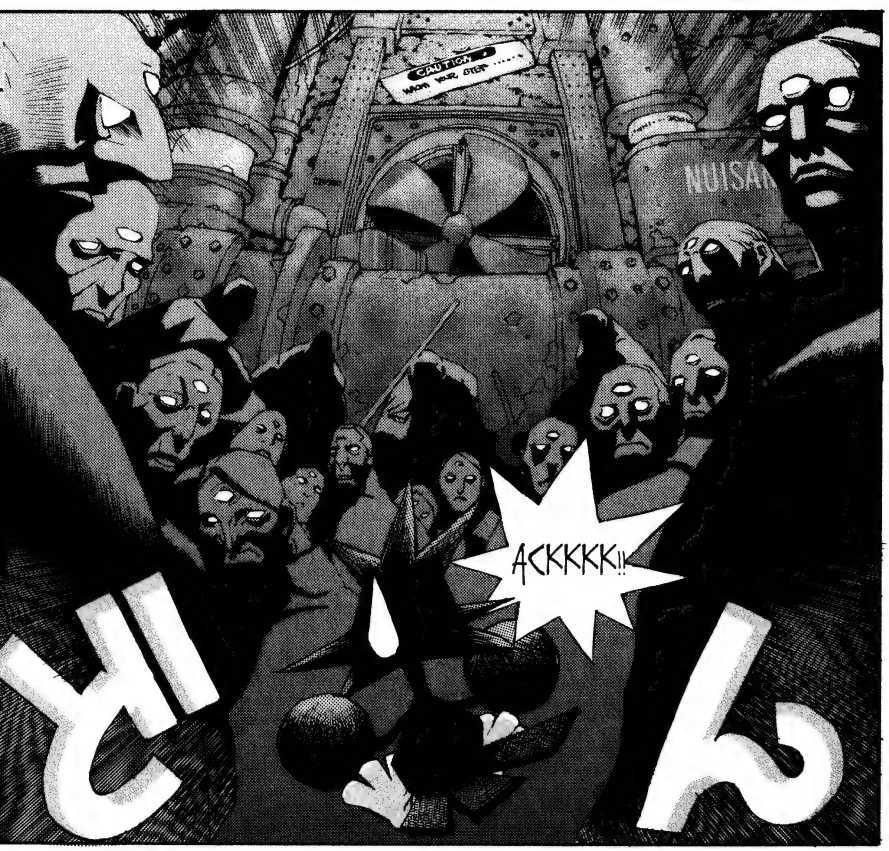

CO...
CO...

AND THE SADNESS WE FEEL AT HER LOSS...
...IS DEEPER THAN ANY MINE DUG WITHIN THIS CITY'S WALLS.
YOUNG MASTER!!


MEW
MEW
MOM... TAKE...
...TAKE THIS WITH YOU.
TAP
IF YOU HAVE THIS, I CAN STILL TALK TO YOU.


EVEN IF YOU'LL ONLY BE STAR-DUST... WE WILL TALK AGAIN... RIGHT?
CQ... MOTHER...

SO..CAN'T ACCEPT HIS MOTHER'S DEATH, EH?
MUST BE THAT SYNDROME-- Y'KNOW, THE ONE WHERE YOU CAN'T GROW UP AND LEAVE YOUR MOM?
REMIND YOU OF ANYONE, JING? HAHAHA!
HKH
LOVE LOVE SHOW
ARE YOU SURE THEY CAN'T FOLLOW US IN HERE?
SHUKT
Shut up, Kir.
EH, DON'T WORRY... ELECTRIC WAVES CAN'T REACH DOWN HERE.
AND THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE US IN THE DARK, SO...
ACTION FIGURES
13


CAUTION
NUISANCE
ACKKKK!!

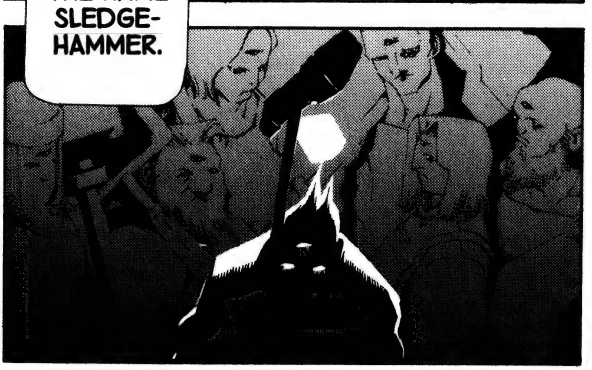
GLOWING...
G-GLOWING...
EYES!!!

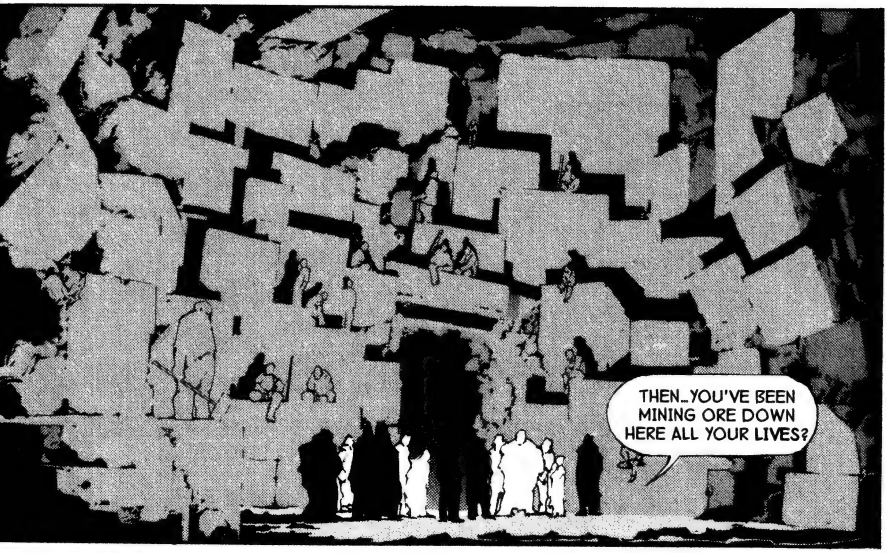
HANG ON! THESE GUYS ARE--

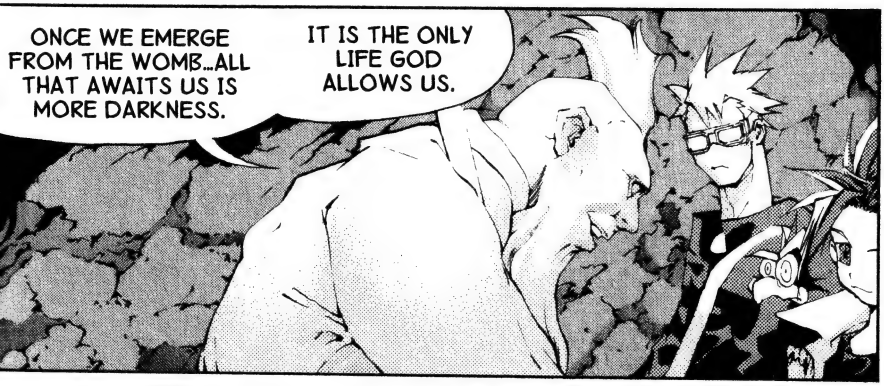
WE'RE DONE FOR, JING!
HEY--JING!!!

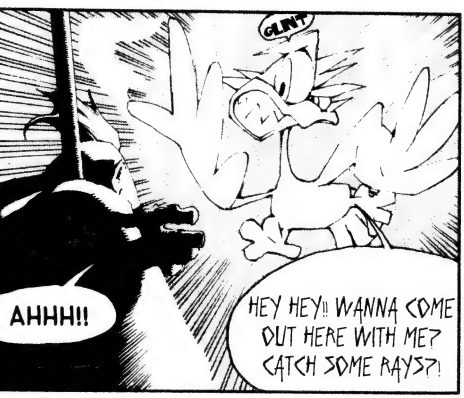
ALHOUGH WE DON'T HAVE INDIVIDUAL NAMES...

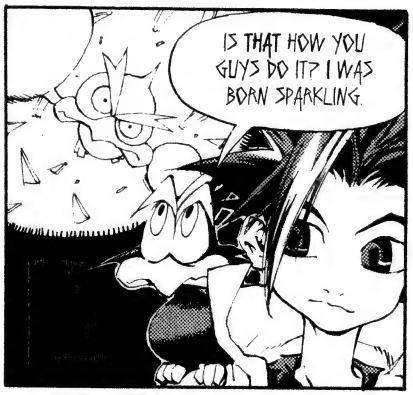
WE CAN INTRODUCE OURSELVES, POSTINO.
TAP!

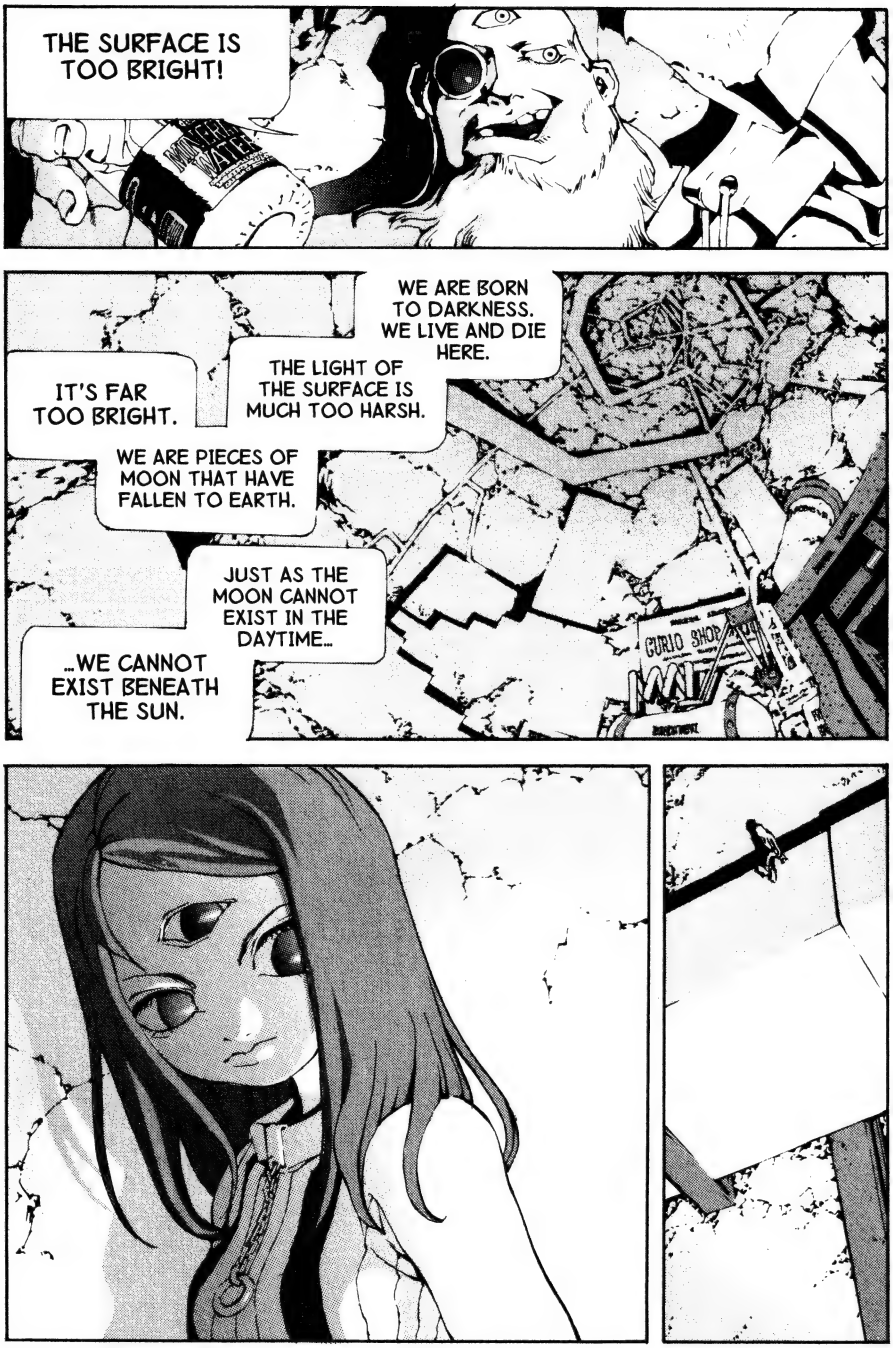

...AS A GROUP, WE GO BY THE NAME SLEDGE-HAMMER.

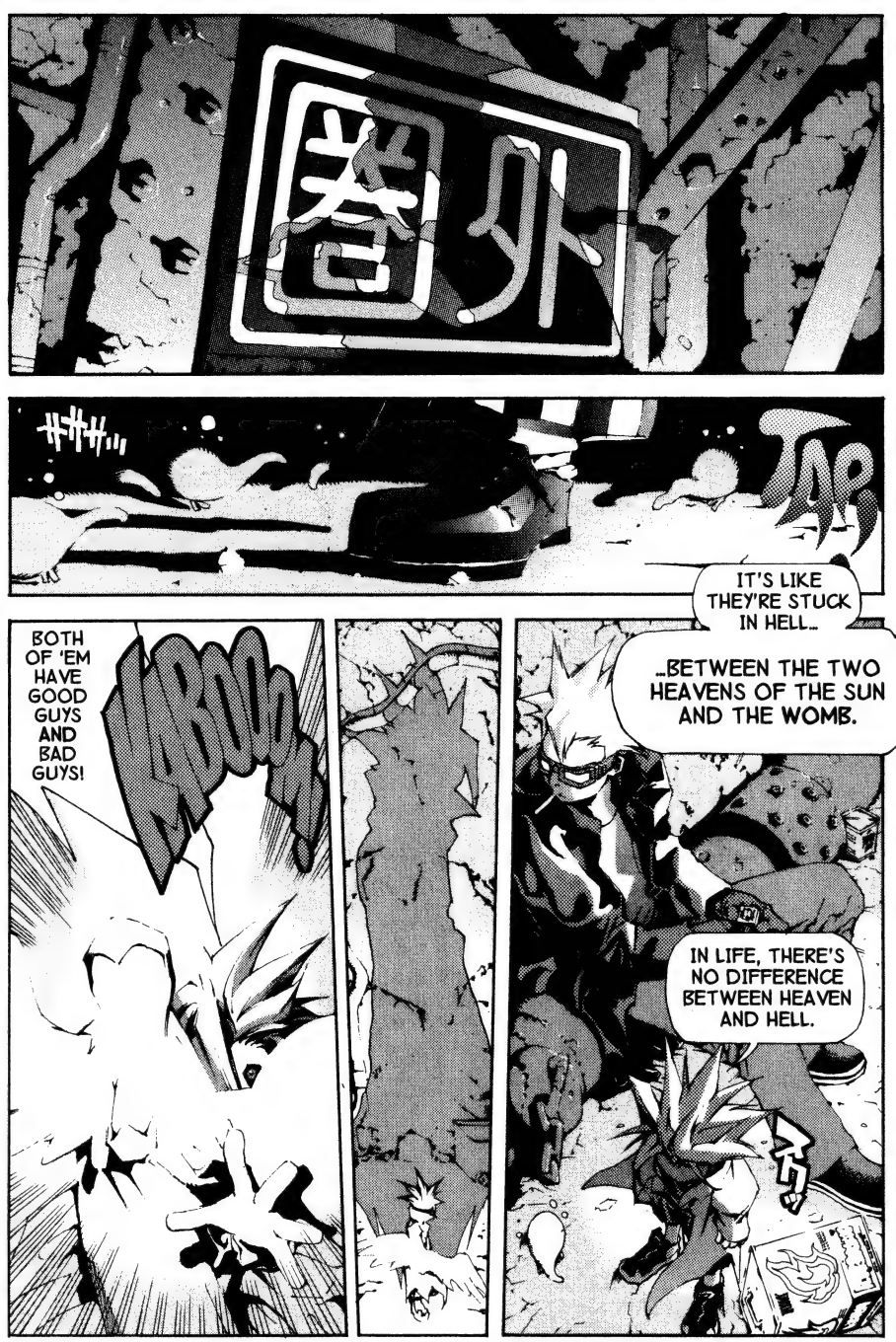

THEN...YOU'VE BEEN MINING ORE DOWN HERE ALL YOUR LIVES?


ONCE WE EMERGE FROM THE WOMB...ALL THAT AWAITS US IS MORE DARKNESS.
IT IS THE ONLY LIFE GOD ALLOWS US.


GLINT
AHHH!!
HEY HEY!! WANNA COME OUT HERE WITH ME? CATCH SOME RAYS?!


IS THAT HOW YOU GUYS DO IT? I WAS BORN SPARKLING.


THE SURFACE IS TOO BRIGHT!
WE ARE BORN TO DARKNESS. WE LIVE AND DIE HERE.
THE LIGHT OF THE SURFACE IS MUCH TOO HARSH.
IT'S FAR TOO BRIGHT.
WE ARE PIECES OF MOON THAT HAVE FALLEN TO EARTH.
JUST AS THE MOON CANNOT EXIST IN THE DAYTIME...
...WE CANNOT EXIST BENEATH THE SUN.
CURIO SHOP


圈外
TAP
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE STUCK IN HELL...
...BETWEEN THE TWO HEAVENS OF THE SUN AND THE WOMB.
IN LIFE, THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL.
BOTH OF 'EM HAVE GOOD GUYS AND BAD GUYS!
KRAK!

CRAC!
KRASH!
THE GOOD GUYS HAVE ARRIVED!!!
YUP YUP!

BANG
NOW...WHERE ARE OUR BAD LITTLE BOYS?
JING! I THOUGHT THEY COULDN'T FIND--
DON'T ASK ME!!!

!!?
CRASH
!!

JING, THIS IS NO TIME TO ACT LIKE AN ANGEL!
YOU MAY WANT TO VISIT YOUR MOM IN HEAVEN...
BANG BANG
HUNT DOWN THE CHERUB!!!
CLICK
HA
HA HA HA!!
BANG
BANG
NEITHER DO I!
WHOA
...BUT AT PRESENT, I HAVE NO DESIRE TO!

BANG! BANG!
...I MAY BE KINDA HUNG UP ON MY MOM, BUT THESE GUYS ARE MUCH WORSE!
BUT SEE HERE, KIR...
SHUKA
AFTER ALL...
!!?
VMP
GUH!

!!!
!
!
...THEY STILL HAVE AN UMBILICAL CORD!!!

WHAT HAPPENED?!
HUH? THERE'S NO RESPONSE!
!!?
UGH.
I SEEEE... UMBILICAL CORD, EH?
YOU SURE YOURS ISN'T STILL ATTACHED, JING?
Like this?
HE CUT IT!
WE'VE BEEN CUT OFF!!!

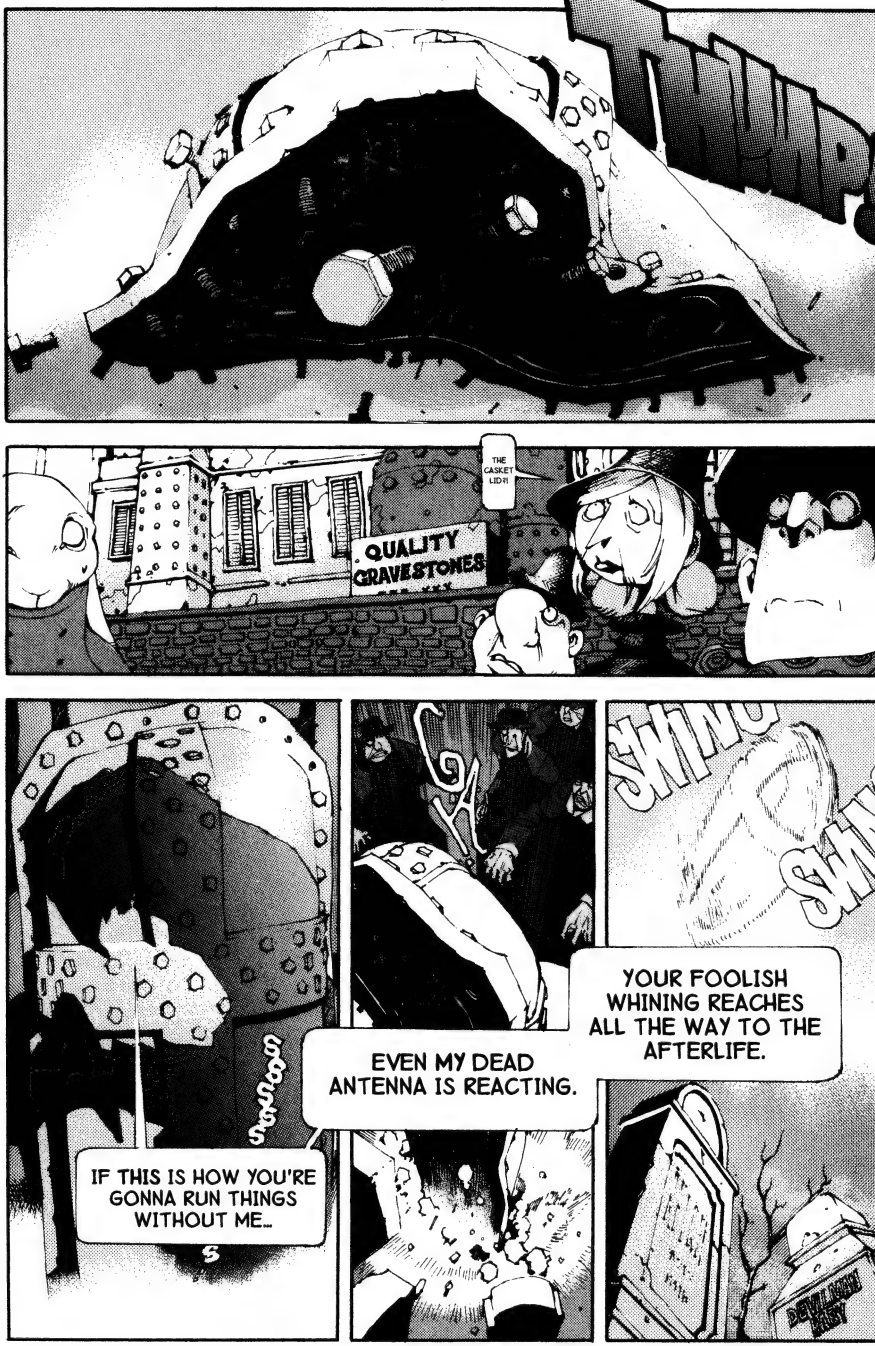
WE NEED MORE MEN.
I WANT EVERYONE
DOWN HERE, NOW!!
Ψαα!!!
Ψα!!!

IT'S NO GOOD. HE GOT AWAY!
THEY'VE ESCAPED INTO THE MINES--WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING!!
ORANGE GUM

Shhh.
Shhh.

BANG
ARE YOU DEAF?! I SAID..

WE TRIED USING THE CONTROLLER, BUT BEFORE WE COULD--
HAH?!!

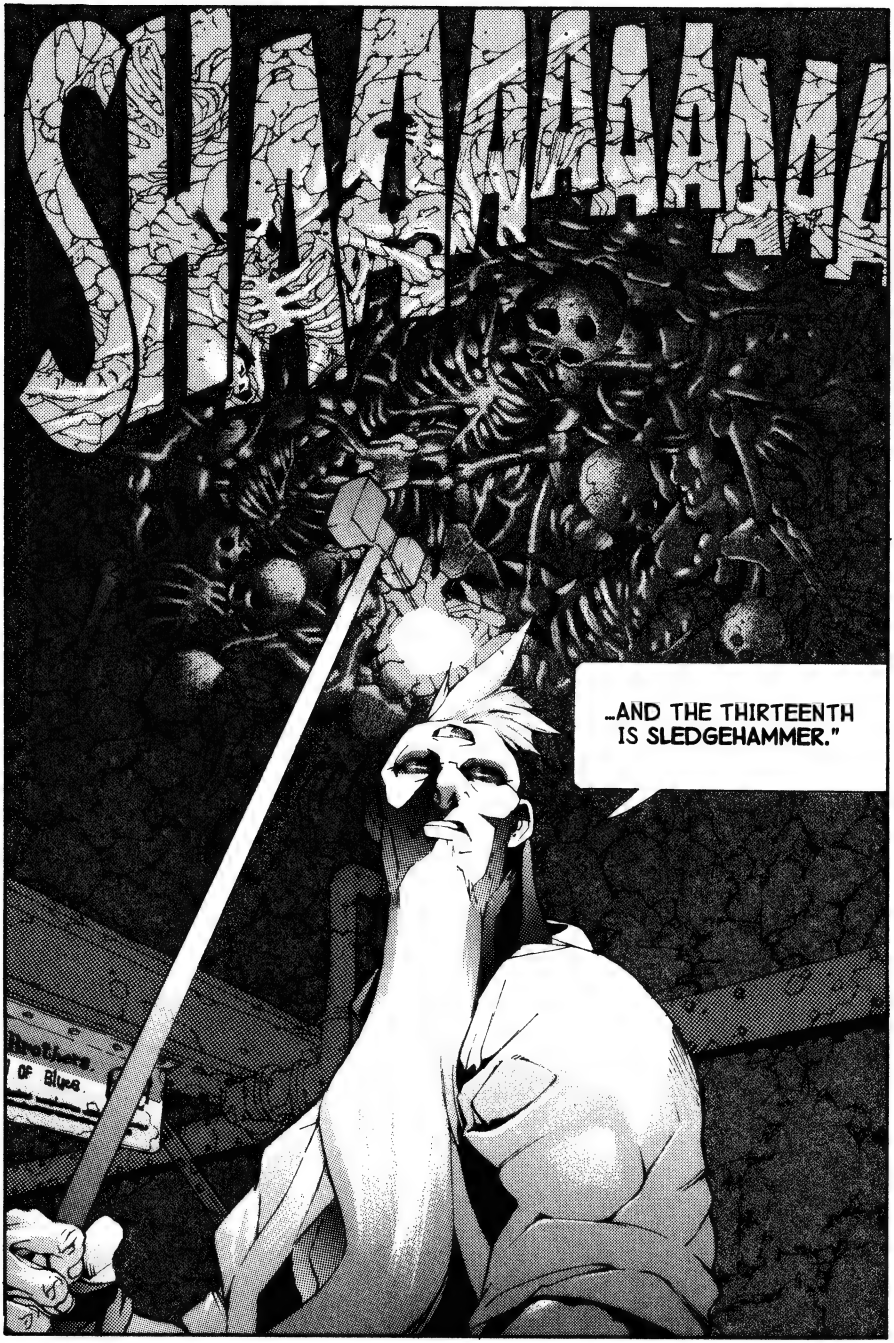

THE GASKET LID?!
QUALITY GRAVESTONES
IF THIS IS HOW YOU'RE GONNA RUN THINGS WITHOUT ME...
EVEN MY DEAD ANTENNA IS REACTING.
YOUR FOOLISH WHINING REACHES ALL THE WAY TO THE AFTERLIFE.
DEWLASH

...I JUST CAN'T STAY DEAD, CAN I?
IT ALL STARTED WHEN KUMMEL BECAME THE BOSS.

HE CREATED AN ORGANIZATION CALLED TOVARISCH--WHICH EVENTUALLY BECAME VIOLENT.
WITH HIS NEW MONEY AND MANPOWER, KUMMEL TOOK CONTROL OF THE CITY'S ELECTRIC WAVES.
AND AFTER THAT... THIS CITY'S BEAUTIFUL MAIN STREET...
...TURNED INTO SUCH AN UGLY PLACE, IT WAS RENAMED CRIME STREET.
BUT THAT'S ...
WHOA.

YEAH, YEAH--WE WERE AT HIS FUNERAL!
WELL...THAT KUMMEL GEEZER IS IN A CASKET NOW...RIGHT?
NO...
...EVEN IF KUMMEL IS DEAD, TOVARISCH ISN'T.
WITHOUT THEIR LEADER, THEY'RE PROBABLY EVEN MORE DANGEROUS.

WHEN KUMMEL DIED, HE MOVED ON TO THE AFTERLIFE...
...BUT WE DON'T GET THAT LUXURY. WE MINERS ARE BORN FROM THE STONES...AND WE DIE IN THE STONES.
"IN CZARINE, THERE ARE THIRTEEN TYPES OF MINERALS. THE FIRST IS QUARTZ...
THERE'S AN OLD SAYING ABOUT SLEDGEHAMMER...


SLAAAAAAAA
..AND THE THIRTEENTH IS SLEDGEHAMMER."

NOW, CHILD...
IT'S ALL ORZO'S FAULT!
!?
HE'S THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THIS CITY, RIGHT?! THANKS TO THAT SPOILED BRAT, THIS PLACE IS--
WHAT'S THAT?!

!!?
WHOA!!!
にげろ
HUH--?! WHAT ARE THOSE?
DEADLY ELECTRICAL WAVES CREATED FROM A SPECIAL POISONOUS ORE!
POISON MINERAL WAVES!!
THEY MUST REALLY WANT TO CATCH US, IF THEY'RE GOING TO ILLEGAL LENGTHS!

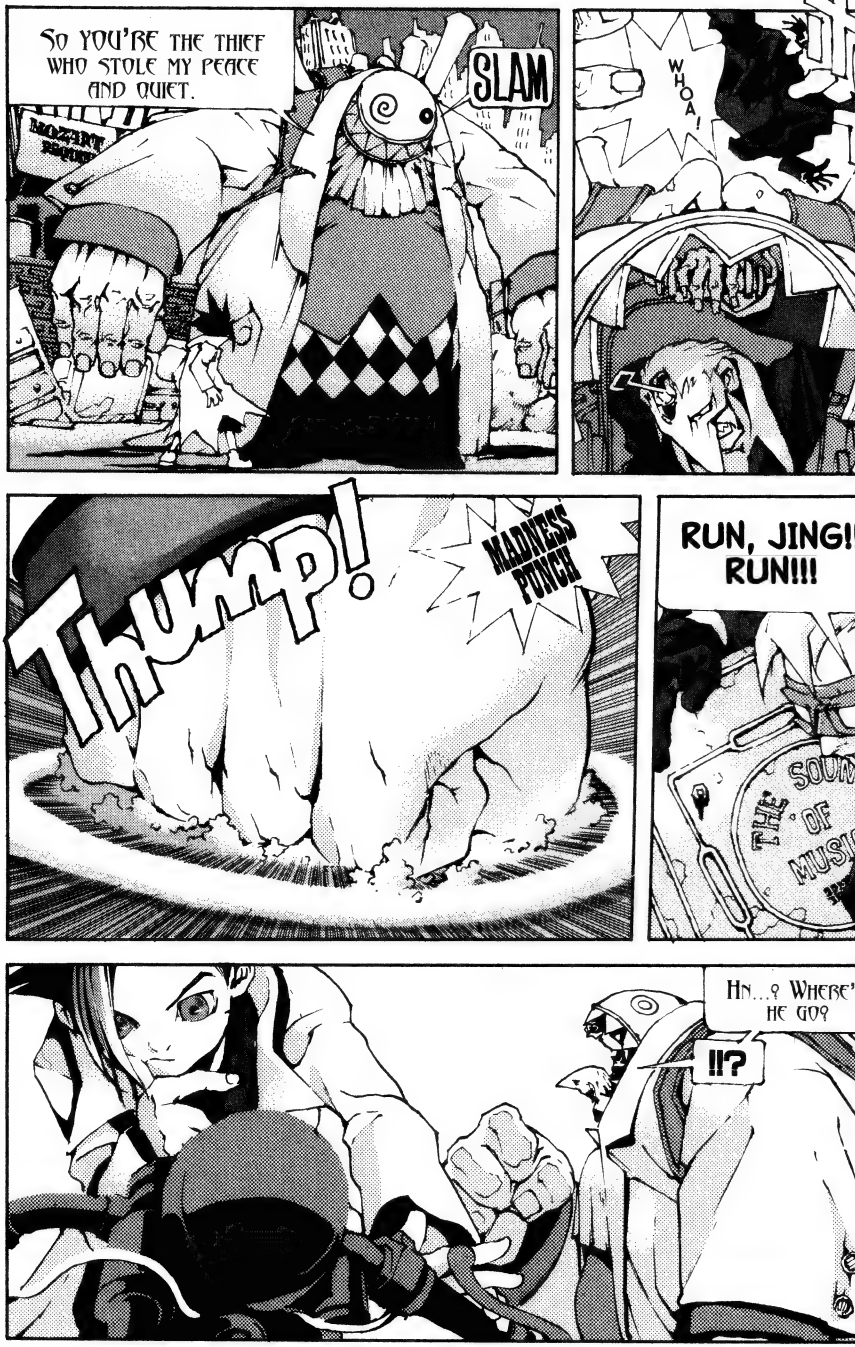
WE HAVE NO BUSINESS WITH YOU THREE-EYED MOLES! GET LOST!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A TWO-EYED CAT-BURGLAR!

WRRRRRR

Oh!
Nice!!
.....
!!?
Hey, Postman...

...WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE US TO SHIP YOUR CORPSE?


So you're the thief who stole my peace and quiet.
SLAM
WHOA!
Thump!
MADNESS PUNCH
RUN, JING!! RUN!!!
Hn...? Where'd he go?
!!?

JING!!!
DON'T WORRY! I'LL FINISH YOUR JOB!!
Pashing!

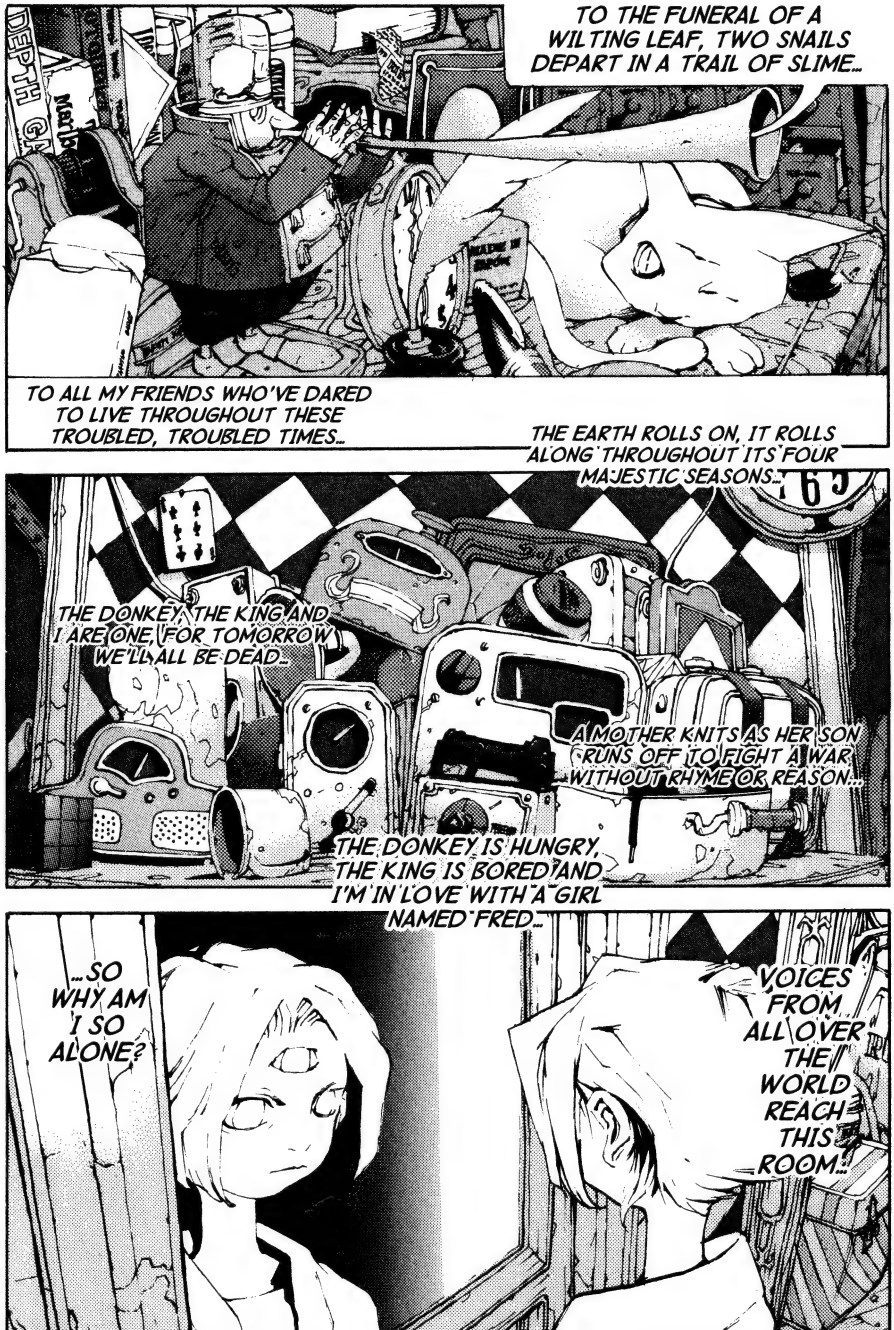
WHOA!
STEALING FROM YOUR FRIENDS TOO, EH? WHAT A NAUGHTY THIEF YOU ARE.
RRRR
!!!
BANG!
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD?

THUMP!
WHAT DID YOU MEAN...FINISH HIS JOB?!
RRR
YO--JING!!
RRRR...
WATCH AND LEARN, MY FRIEND.

SEE, I FIGURE WE CAN SEND THAT LETTER ELECTRONICALLY...NICE AND FAST.
ELECTRONICALLY? FROM HERE?!
WELL, WE'D BE USING ELECTRIC LINES, ANYWAY...
SHOCK
VROOM!
VRRRR

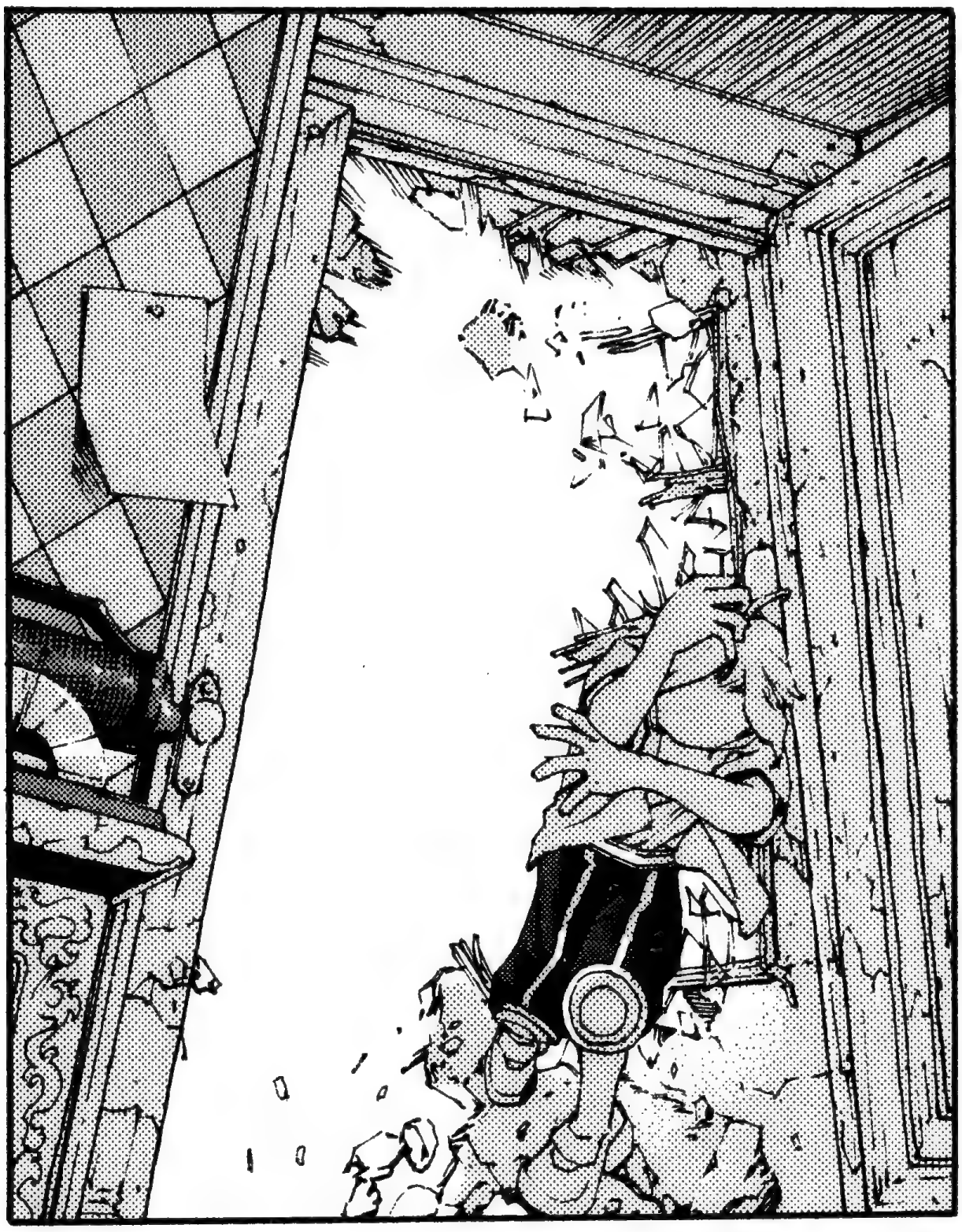
...JUST LIKE THIS ONE!

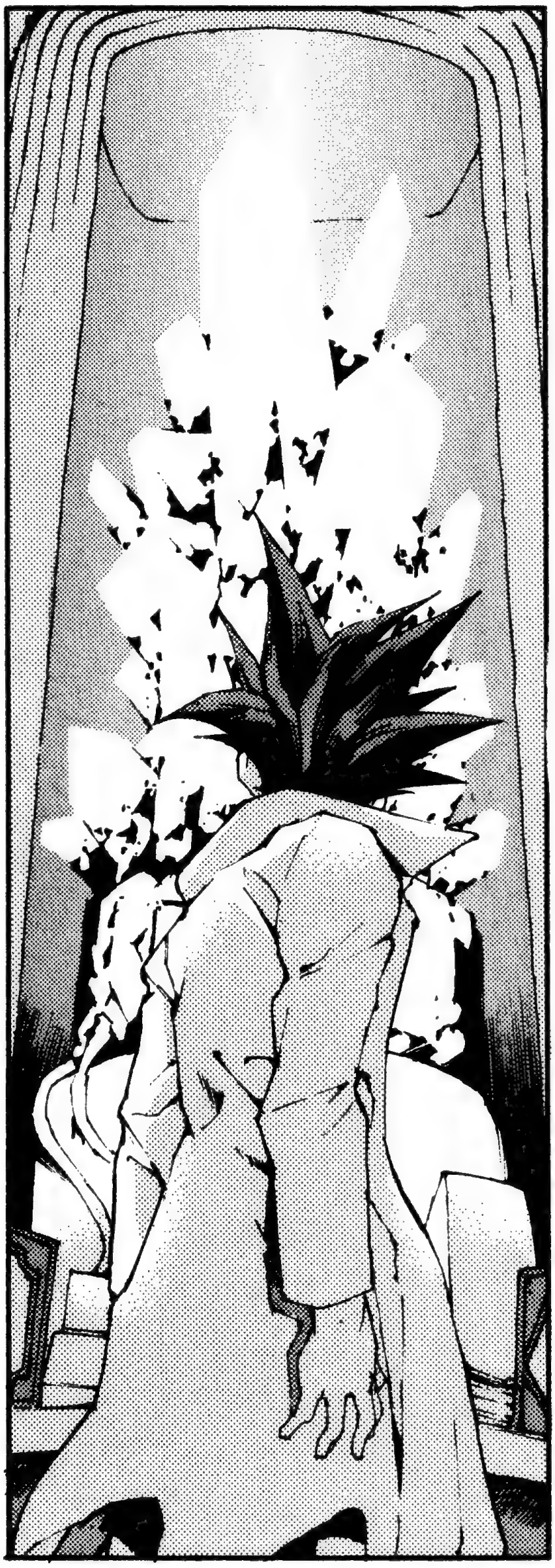
RRRR


TO THE FUNERAL OF A WILTING LEAF, TWO SNAILS DEPART IN A TRAIL OF SLIME...
TO ALL MY FRIENDS WHO'VE DARED TO LIVE THROUGHOUT THESE TROUBLED, TROUBLED TIMES...
THE EARTH ROLLS ON, IT ROLLS ALONG THROUGHOUT ITS FOUR MAJESTIC SEASONS...
THE DONKEY, THE KING AND I ARE ONE, FOR TOMORROW WE'LL ALL BE DEAD...
A MOTHER KNITS AS HER SON RUNS OFF TO FIGHT A WAR WITHOUT RHYME OR REASON...
THE DONKEY IS HUNGRY, THE KING IS BORED AND I'M IN LOVE WITH A GIRL NAMED FRED...
...SO WHY AM I SO ALONE?
VOICES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD REACH THIS ROOM...

WHY AM I SO ALONE?
!!

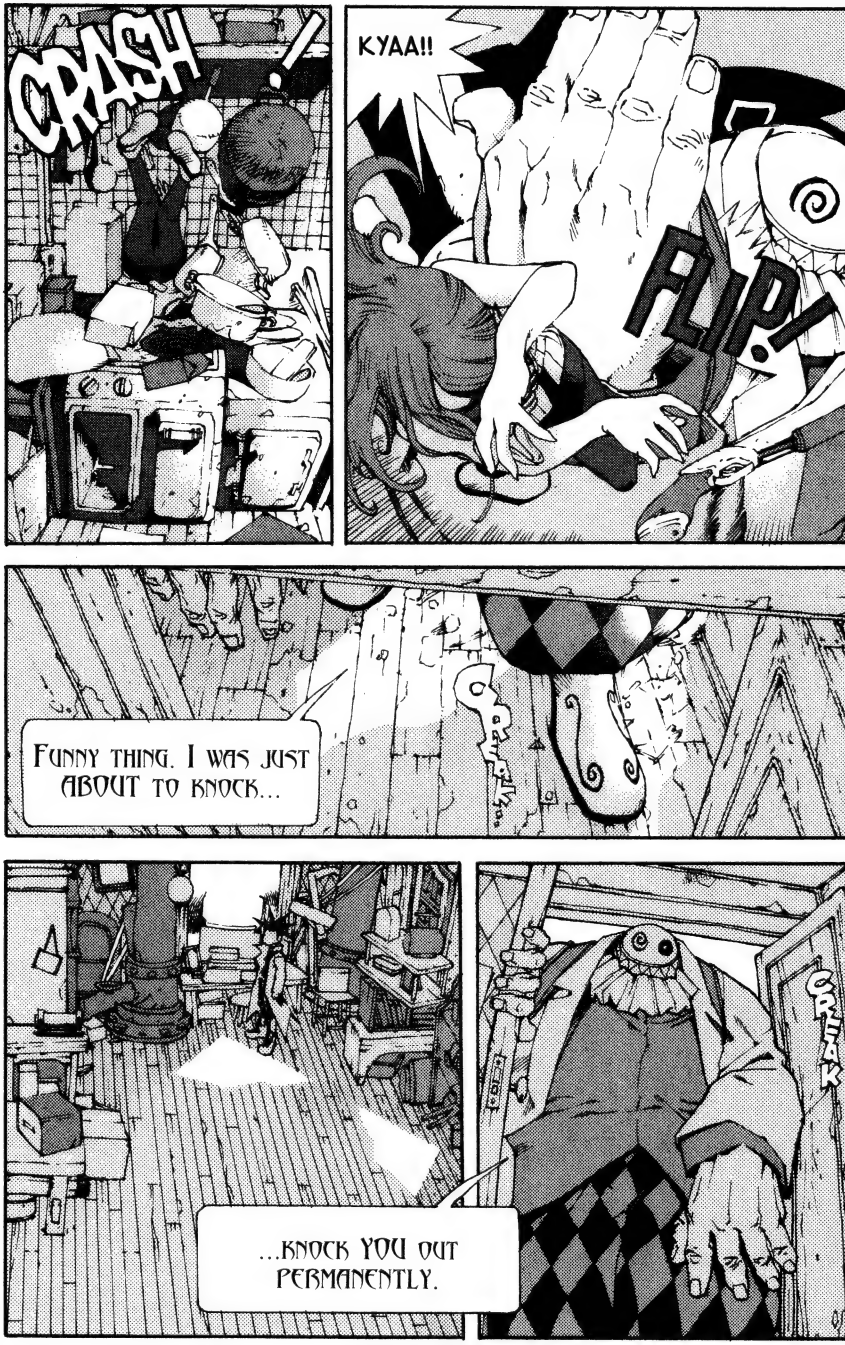
WHO IS IT?!
AN INTRUDER?!!
BUMP
JUST THE MAILMAN. I'VE BROUGHT YOU A LETTER.
ALTHOUGH..WE WILL BE TAKING THIS PHONE WITH US.





LUD

THUMP!
CAN'T YOU EVEN KNOCK BEFORE ENTERING SOMEONE'S HOUSE?!
ガン
ガン

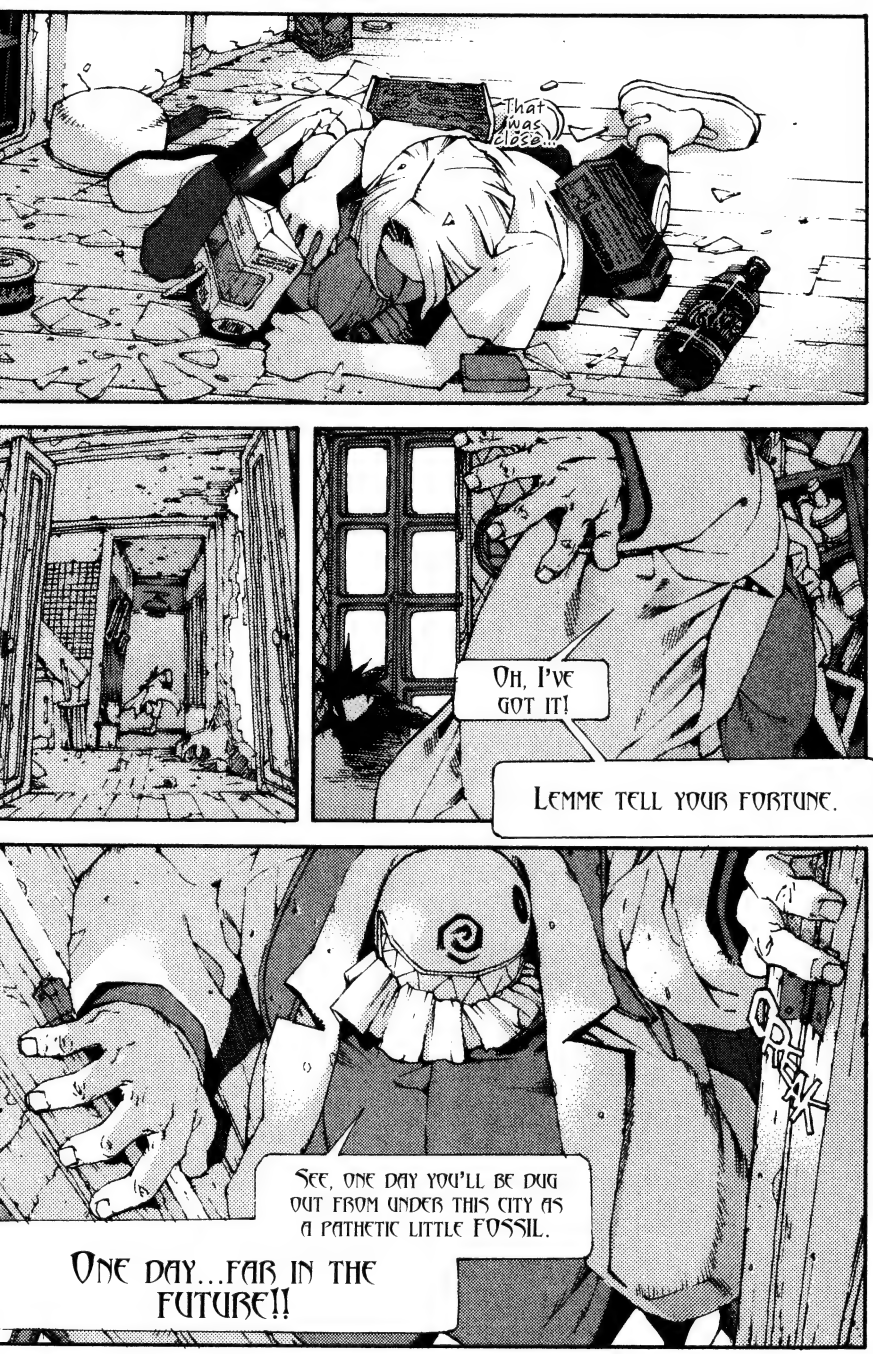

CRASH!
KYAA!!
FLIP!
FUNNY THING. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO KNOCK...
...KNOCK YOU OUT PERMANENTLY.
CRIIAK

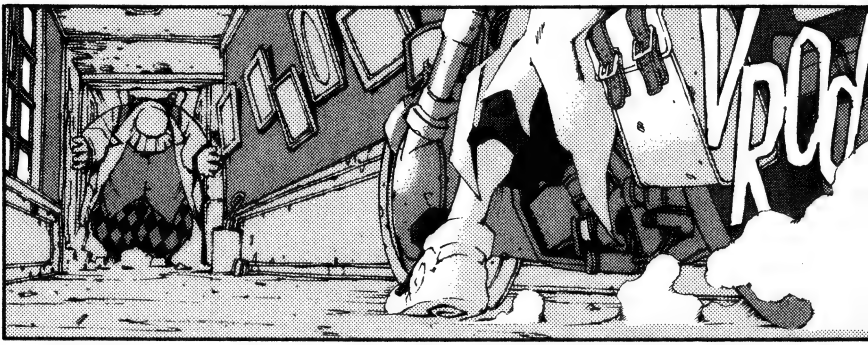
CRASH!
To throw such an exciting future to the wind--what a strange child you are.
ZRRSH
KIIIIIR!!
AH..THE SUNLIGHT..!

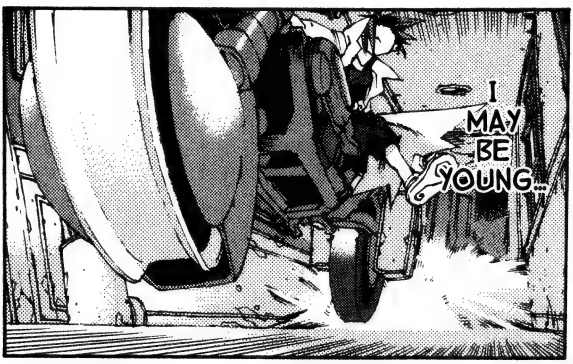
ROYALE!!!

GATAN!!
WATCH OUT!!

HEH. THAT LITTLE BB GUN COULDN'T KILL A CORPSE.


That was close...
Oh, I've got it!
Lemme tell your fortune.
See, one day you'll be dug out from under this city as a pathetic little fossil.
One day...far in the future!!


VROOM


I MAY BE YOUNG...

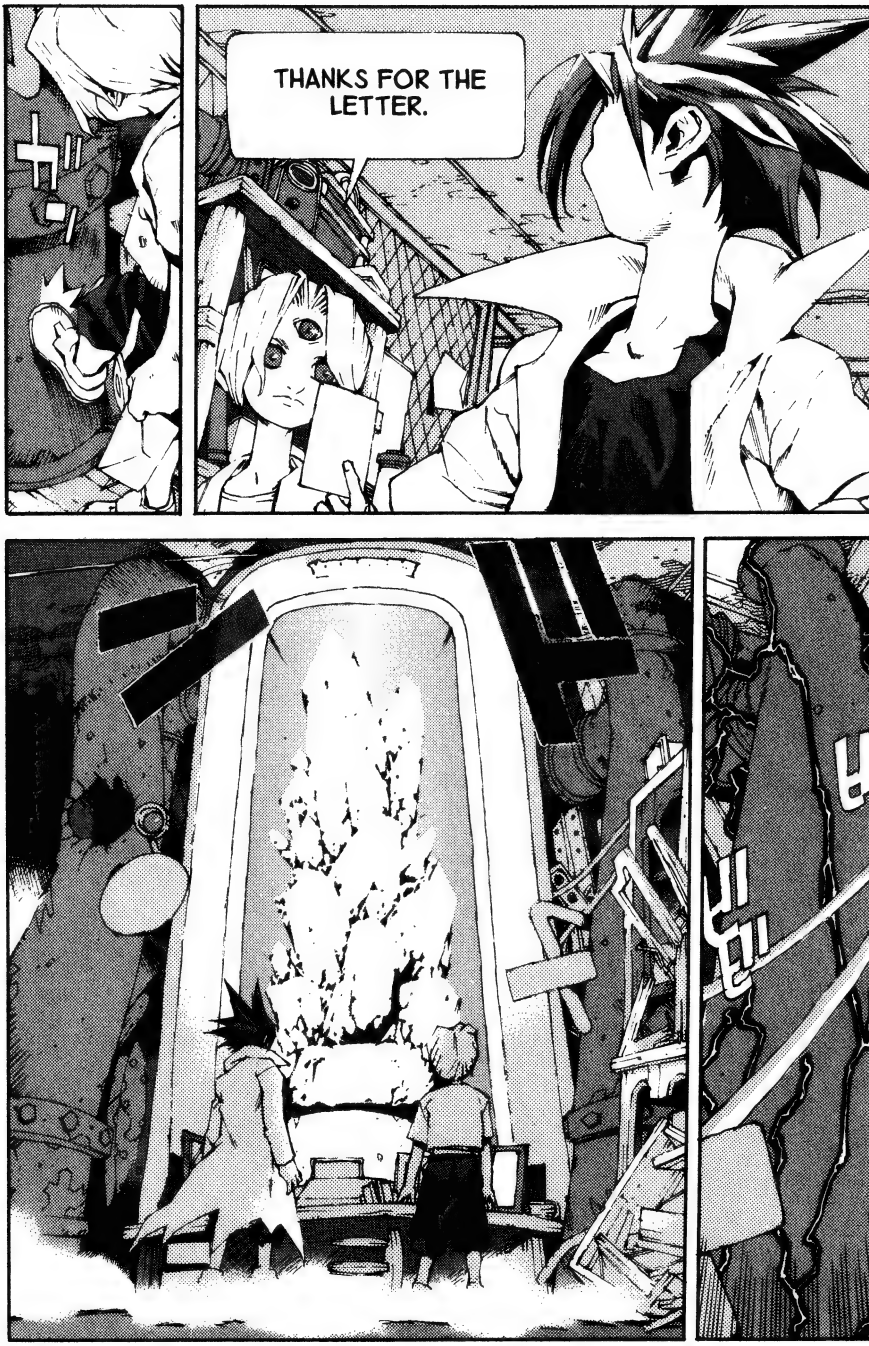
DON'T TRY AND FORCE YOUR FUTURE ON ME JUST 'CUZ I'M A KID.

THUD!!
...BUT I'VE GOT ENOUGH OF A PAST...

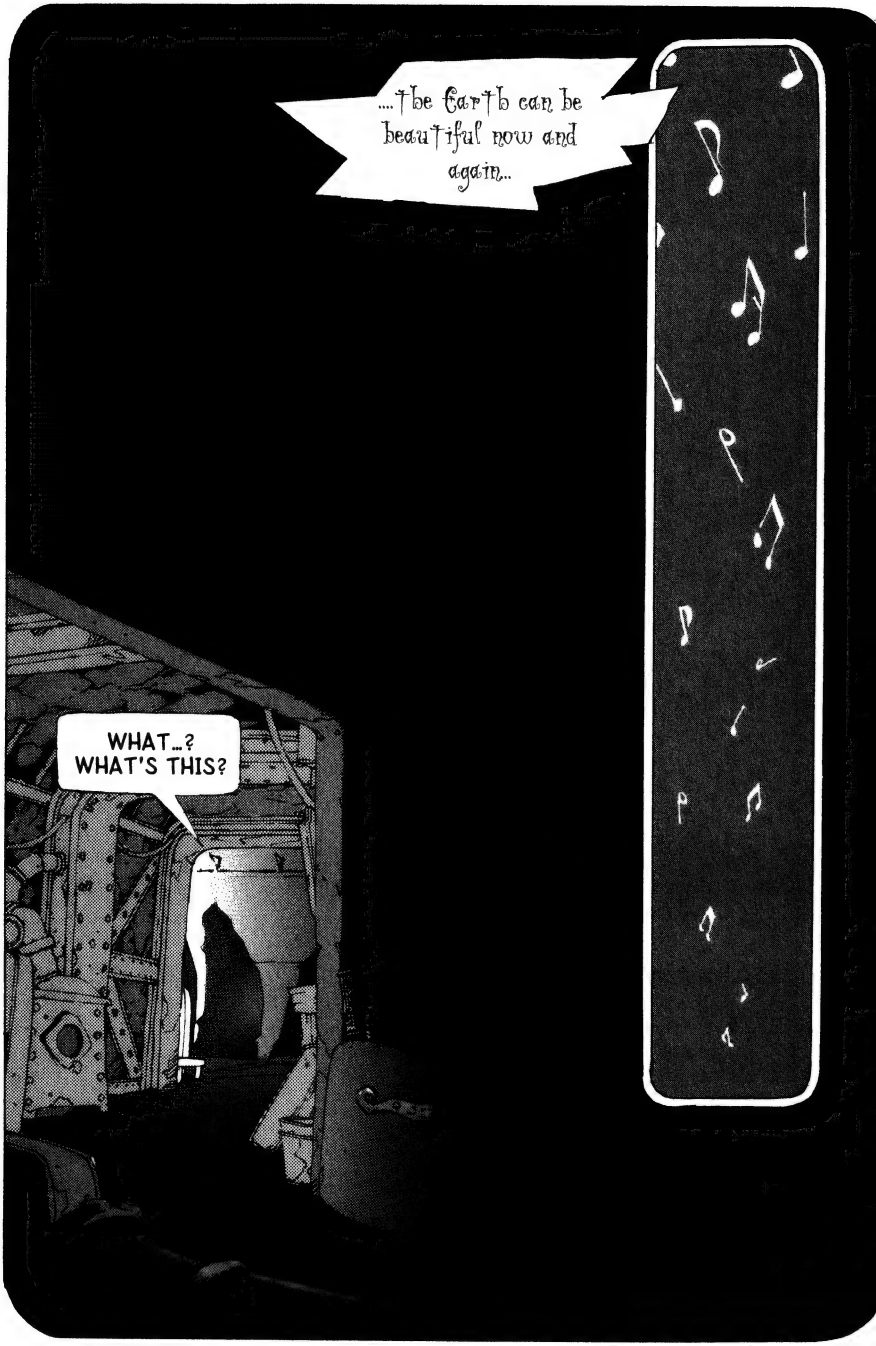
CRASH!
...TO WANT TO CHANGE THE FUTURE!!!

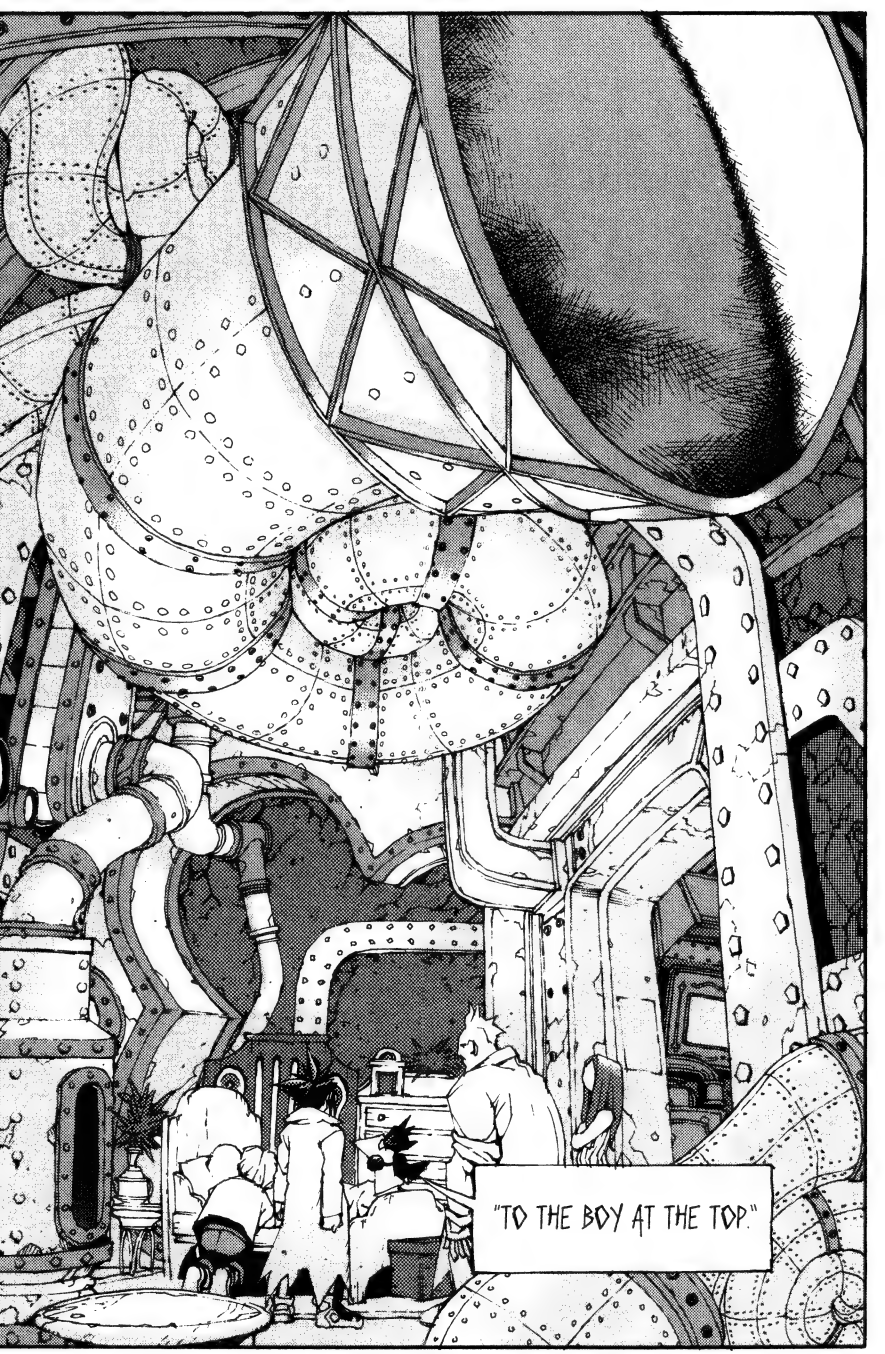
I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAS SAVED BY A SPOILED BRAT LIKE YOU.
IT'S TRUE.. UNTIL NOW, I THOUGHT I WAS ALL ALONE...
?
...BUT NOW I HAVE A PLACE TO GO.. SOMEONE TO SEE.

PHEW.

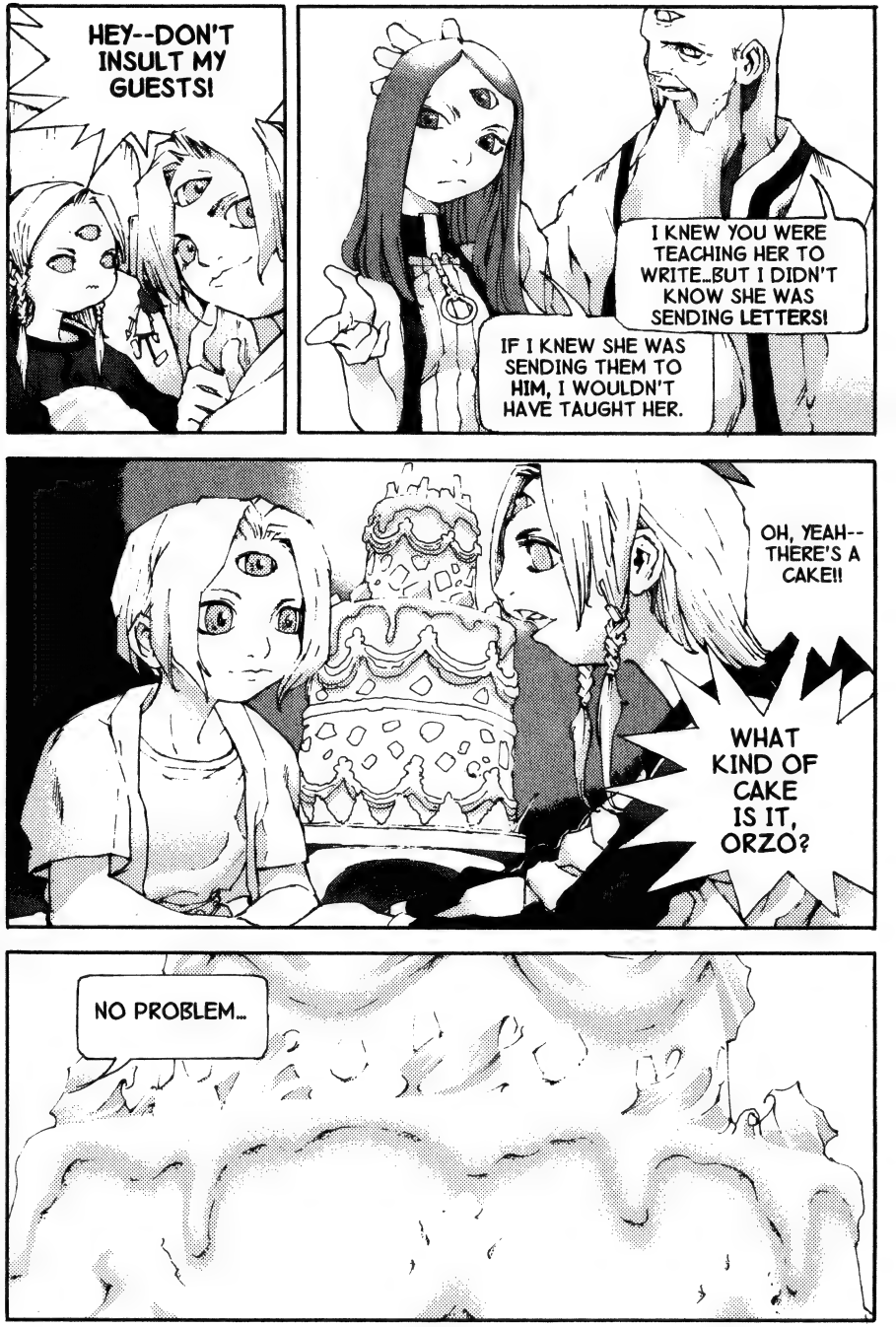

THANKS FOR THE LETTER.

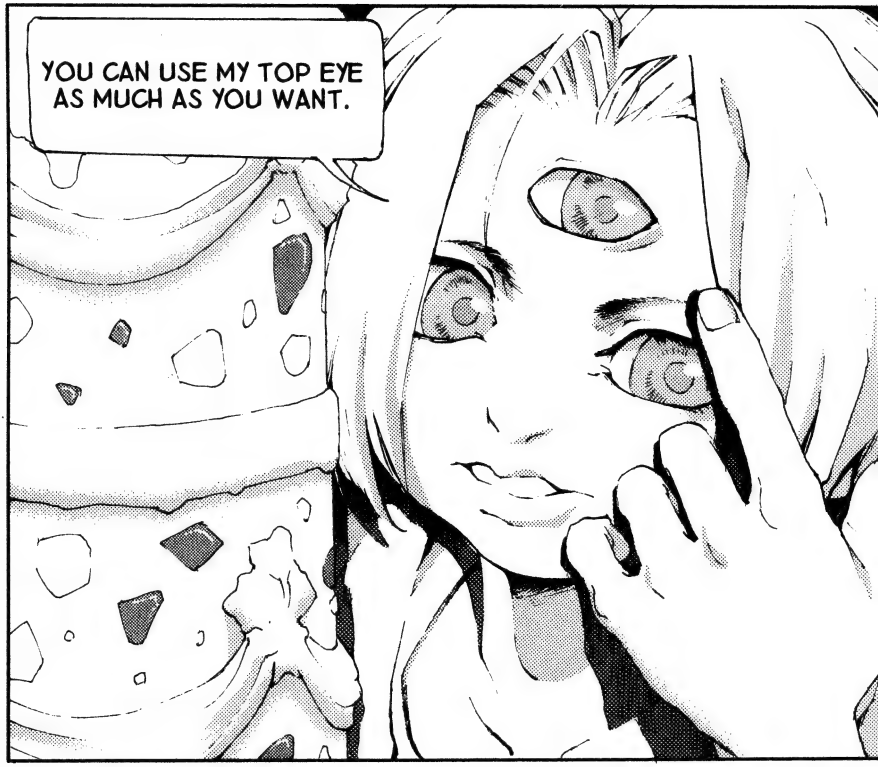
...to our great Father up in Heaven!
You stay up there...
This little song goes out to Heaven.
DANGER! High Voltage Overload
...and we'll stay down here. The Earth can be beautiful now and again...

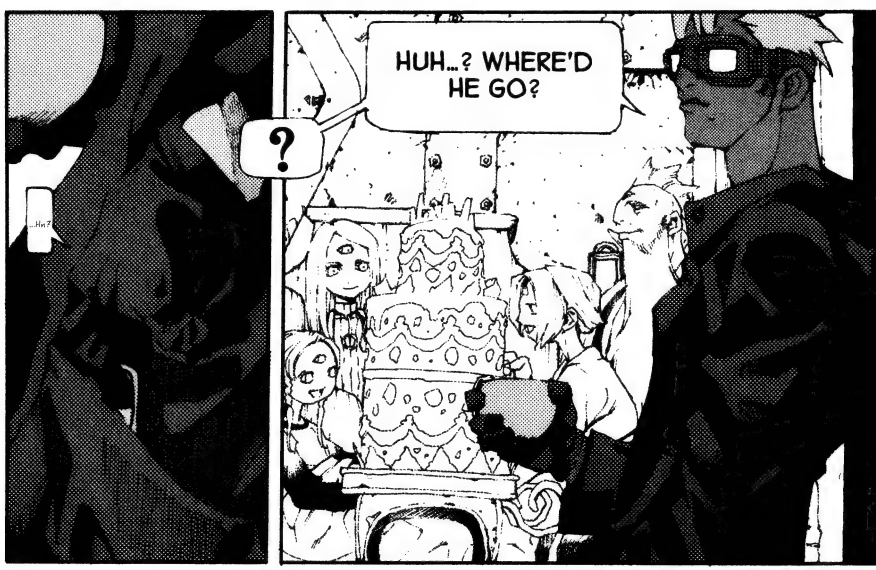

....the Earth can be beautiful now and again...
WHAT...? WHAT'S THIS?


"TO THE BOY AT THE TOP."

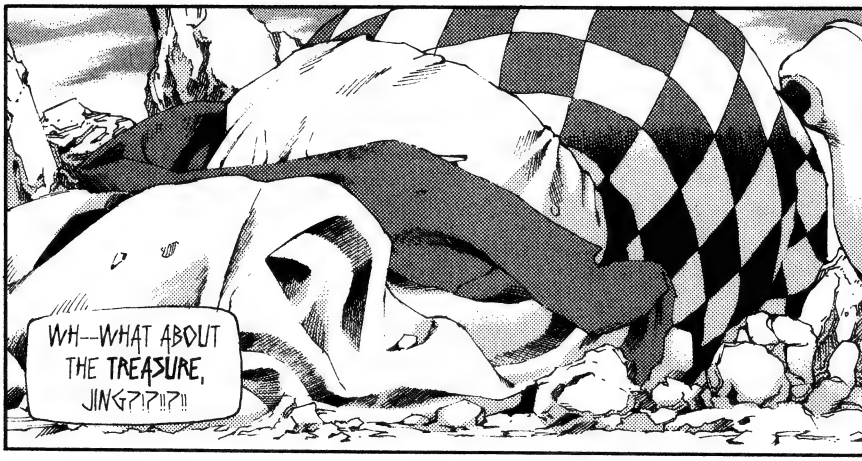
"I MAY NOT BE YOUR MOTHER..."
"...BUT YOUR VOICE HAS ALWAYS REACHED ME HERE."
カラカラ
"I'LL BE HAVING A BIRTHDAY PARTY SOON."
"I WOULD LIKE IT VERY MUCH IF YOU COULD COME."


HEY--DON'T INSULT MY GUESTS!
IF I KNEW SHE WAS SENDING THEM TO HIM, I WOULDN'T HAVE TAUGHT HER.
I KNEW YOU WERE TEACHING HER TO WRITE...BUT I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS SENDING LETTERS!
OH, YEAH--THERE'S A CAKE!!
WHAT KIND OF CAKE IS IT, ORZO?
NO PROBLEM...

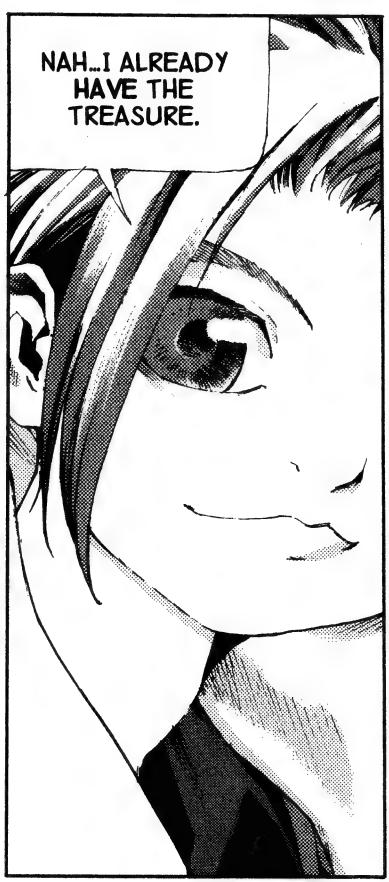

YOU CAN USE MY TOP EYE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.

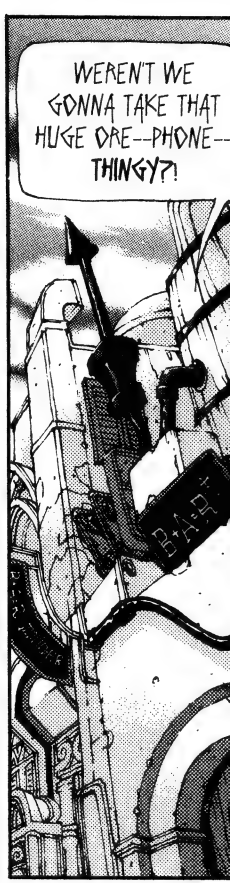

HUH...? WHERE'D HE GO?
?

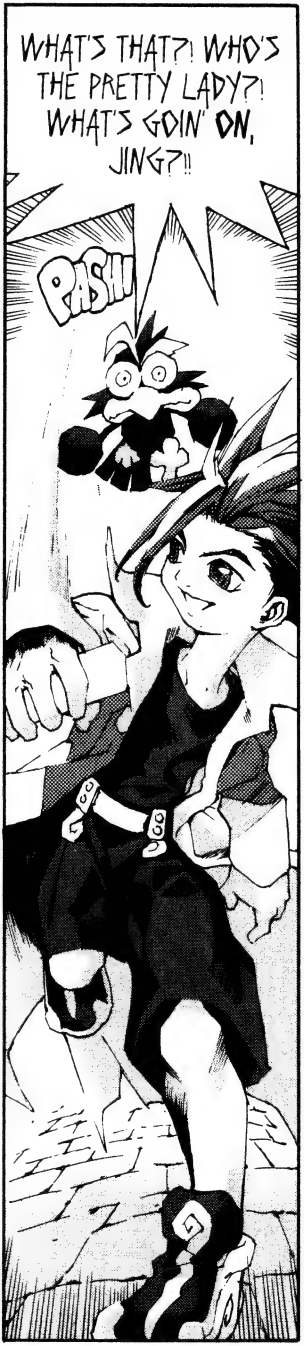
WELL, I'LL GIVE HIM ONE THING...HE AIN'T LIKE ANY THIEF I'VE EVER MET.
FOR MY BIKE...?
MOTORBIKE BITES ©


WH--WHAT ABOUT THE TREASURE, JING?!?!!?!!

WOW
OH, IS THAT IT? LEMME SEE! COME ON, JING!!!


NAH...I ALREADY HAVE THE TREASURE.


WEREN'T WE GONNA TAKE THAT HUGE ORE--PHONE--THINGY?!
BAR

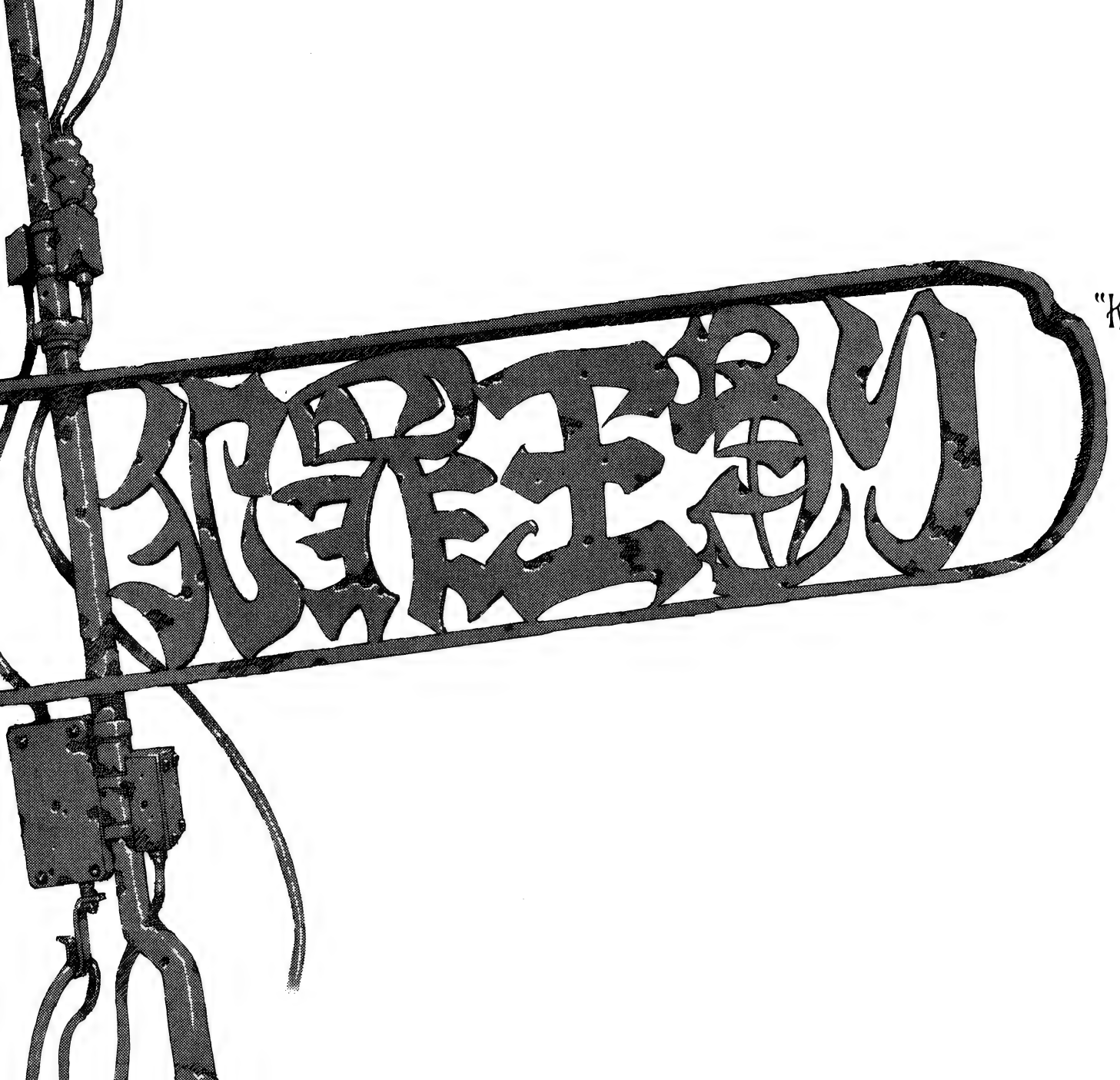

WHAT'S THAT?! WHO'S THE PRETTY LADY?! WHAT'S GOIN' ON, JING?!!
PASH!

...would soon be renamed...

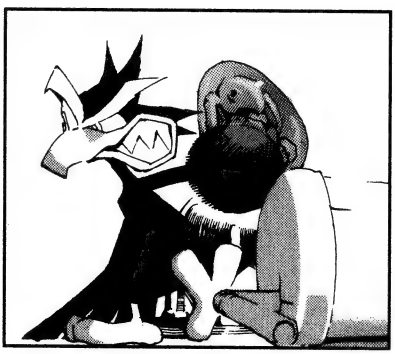
For the Main Street on which Jing appeared and vanished...

But—what's that? He didn't steal the street, you say? Well, keep reading.

Yes...that's what Jing was after this time.



Rue de Jing...
"King of Crime Street."



THE LEADER OF THIS GANG CALLS HIMSELF THE KING OF BANDITS.
...CALLS HIMSELF THE KING OF BANDITS.
..OF BANDITS.
OFFICIAL WARNING FROM THE SHINKU!!
REPEAT--OFFICIAL WARNING FROM THE SHINKU!
A GANG OF BANDITS HAS ENTERED RUSTY NAIL!!
JING DEAD OR ALIVE
THIS GANG HAS ALREADY TAKEN A FORTUNE OUT OF BONE MARROW BANK...

...AND IS STILL AT LARGE!!
THE KING OF BANDITS IS STILL ON THE LOOSE!!!
NO BUSINESS FOR ME TODAY, I GUESS.
SHEESH...WHEN THE LYMPH DEMONS SCREAM, EVERYONE HIDES UNDER THEIR BEDS...

?!

OH...HELLO!

THANKS FOR COMING-- I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CLOSE UP SHOP! COOL SHOES, BY THE WAY.

SO WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT TODAY, ANYWAY? DO YOU KNOW?

Mister...?

The Saga of Rusty Nail--Home of the Holy Brain

3rd Shot - The Patchwork City

M-MISTER...ARE YOU THE ONE THEY'RE AFTER...?
THANKS, KID! HERE...
THERE!! THERE HE IS!!!
THE KING OF BANDITS IS HERE!!!
THIS OUGHTA KEEP YOU QUIET, RIGHT?
!!

THOUGH LATELY, IT HAS FOUND A PURPOSE... FOR THOSE SEEKING TREASURE.
PRETTY SAD NAME, HUH? NOTHING LIKE A CITY THAT'S USELESS, YET HARD TO PULL OUT!
YEAH...

A week earlier...
STARE
SO...A CITY NAMED RUSTY NAIL, EH...?

WELL, IF IT'S A NEST YOU WANT... LOOK UP.

AW, C'MON, JING. MONEY AIN'T ENOUGH. LOVE, MAN--GIVE ME LOVE!!
LOVE STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE ME WANT TO BUILD A NEST...

LOOKS LIKE A NEST FOR THESE GUARDIAN BIRDS THAT LIVE AROUND HERE.
HMM, GUARDIAN BIRD...I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT!

"HEY BABY...WHY DON'T I BE YOUR GUARDIAN BIRD TONIGHT?" HEH HEH!
WAIT--AREN'T WE MOVING AWAY FROM THE CITY, JING?
WELL, I AM A BANDIT. THOUGHT I MIGHT TAKE THE BACK ENTRANCE FOR ONCE.
BACK ENTRANCE...?

UGH! WHAT'S THIS SMELL?!!

IT'S LIKE A BAD SMELL **CONVENTION** CAME HERE AND **DIED!**

WELL, THEY DON'T CALL IT A SEWER SYSTEM FOR NOTHING.

I'M TELLIN' YA, JING, THIS SMELL'S GONNA **KILL** US...

...AND WE'LL END UP AS MORE **TRASH** IN THIS STINKIN' HOLE.

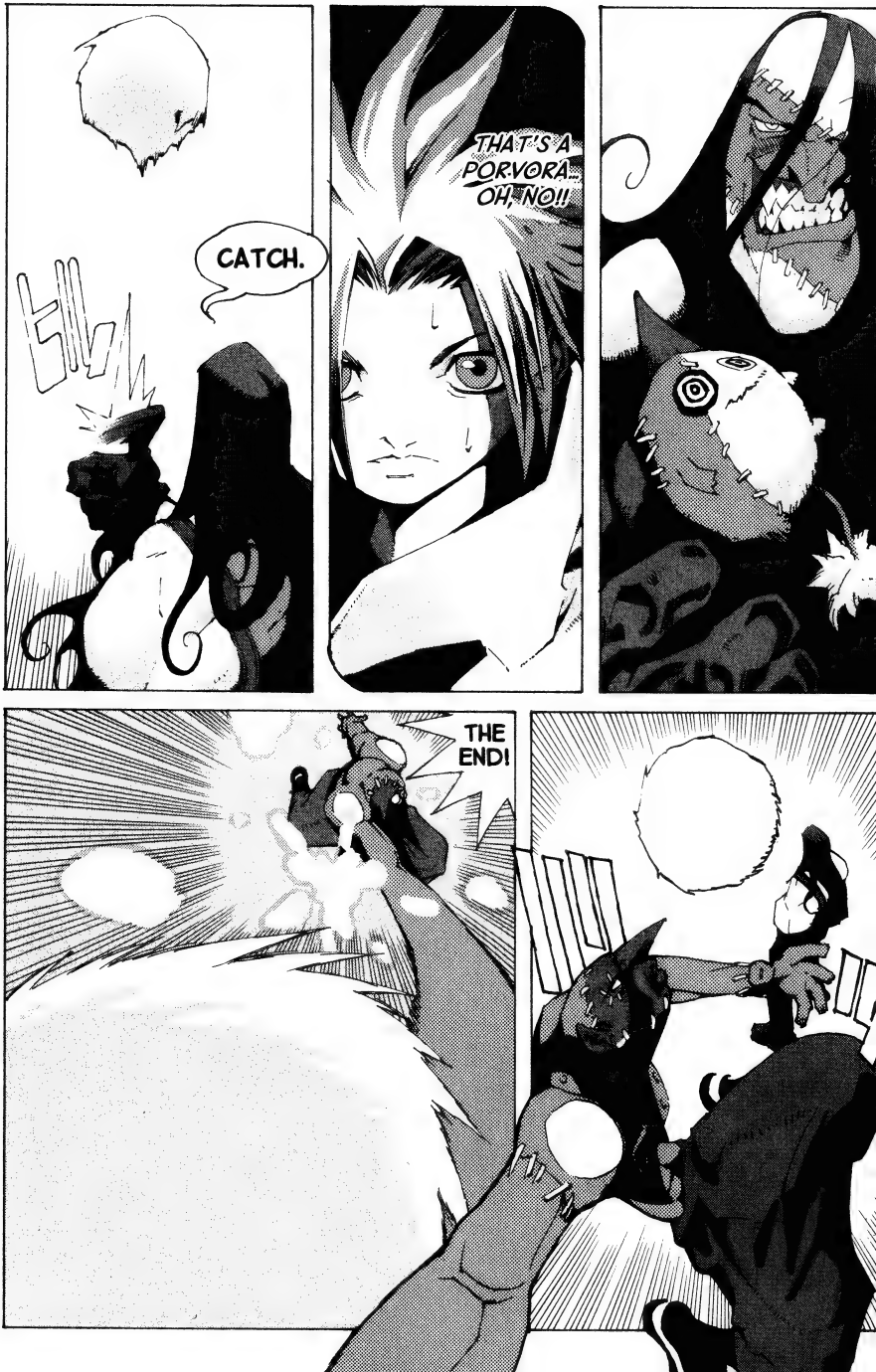
HN? NEVER HEARD OF TALKING TRASH BEFORE.
TODAY'S BURNABLE TRASH DAY, Y'KNOW.
I'd get lost if I were you!
HEY--NOW WAIT JUST A--!!
ZZZZ··
Z··ZZZ··Z
HEY--LET US OUT!!
SURE YOU DON'T WANNA LOOK AT THIS NICE RING I GOT?

H-HEY...THAT'S BRASS, RIGHT? OH, PLEASE--LET ME CHOMP DOWN ON IT-- JUST FOR A SECOND!
CREAK
WELL...THAT WAS EASY.
YEAH. TO US IT'S ONLY A BRASS RING...
SLAM

...BUT TO HIM, IT'S A STATUS SYMBOL!
CLINK

WHAT WAS THAT...?

?!!
I'M SORRY... WOULD YOU LIKE ANOTHER?
EH? EH?!


CATCH.
THAT'S A PORVORA... OH, NO!!
THE END!

IF I GET HIT BY THAT, I'M FINISHED.
BOR

OH, MY...IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE SOMEONE CAME DOWN THIS ALLEY.
SORRY, LADY--NO TIME TO TALK.
NO TIME TO LIVE, IN FACT!!!

STOP!!!
AN EXPLOSION HERE WOULD PUT TOO MUCH STRAIN ON THE SHINKU.

CONTAIN THE TARGETS FIRST
YOU CAN KILL THEM AFTER THAT.
TAKE THEM TO THE HOLDING CELL!

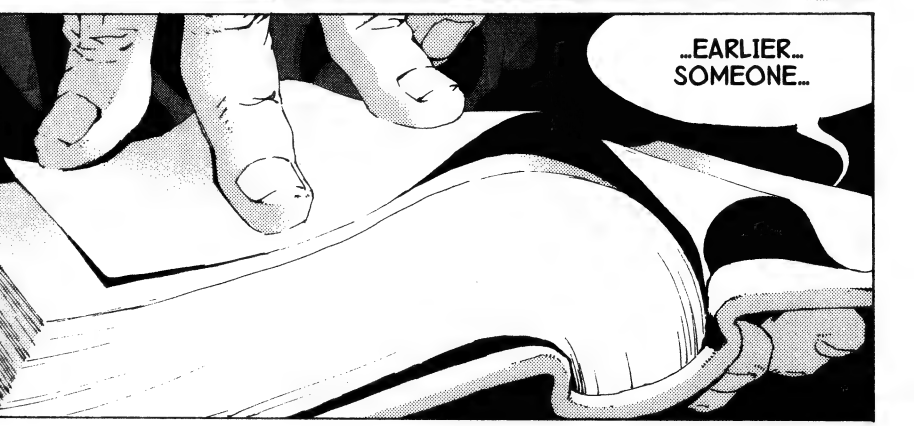
WELL...COME AGAIN.
COME, SHIN LU.
SPLASH!

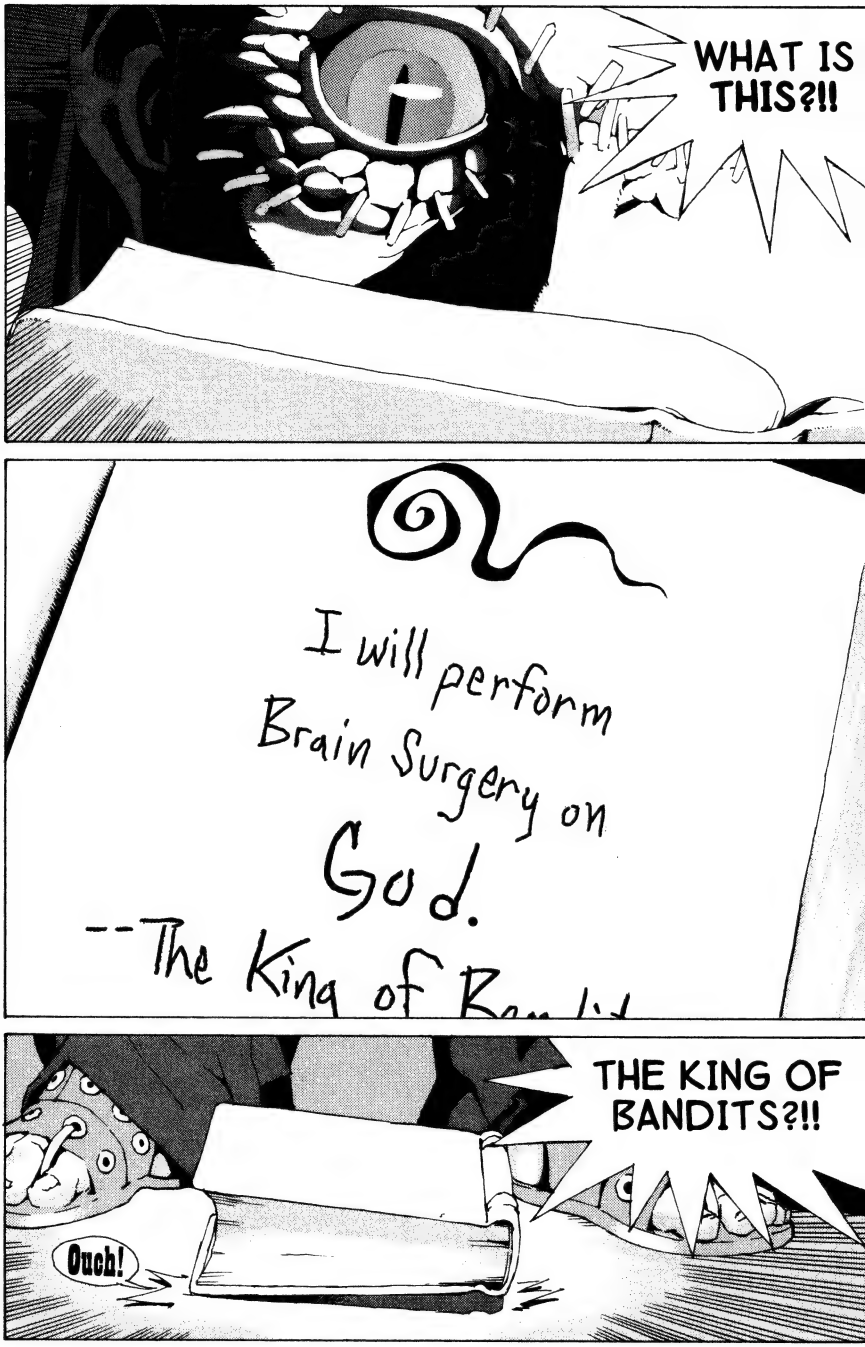
BANG
FOOLS!! DO YOU FORGET THAT THE WALLS HAVE EARS?!! IF THE PROFESSOR WERE TO HEAR YOUR COMPLAINTS--
PROFESSOR URYAN CAN BE SO SOFT SOMETIMES.
ANYWAY, EXACTLY WHY DO WE HAVE TO--
HUH? THEY'RE LIGHTING UP...!
?
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEY ARE.
WHAT?!!

AGHHH!!!

UH, YES... GOOD NIGHT, SHIN LU.
GOOD NIGHT, PROFESSOR.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE PICKED YOU UP TODAY.
HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY WRITTEN IN YOUR DIARY TODAY?
SIR...?
五根夢憶
BUT...


...EARLIER... SOMEONE...


WHAT IS THIS?!!
I will perform Brain Surgery on God.
--The King of Ban
THE KING OF BANDITS?!!
Ouch!

4th Shot - God's Brain
LATER, YOUNGSTER!!
"TO MASTER PHILOSOPHY IS TO LEARN WHAT DEATH IS."

BUWWWWUUU...
SO WHAT'S THIS "GOD'S BRAIN," JING?
AHHH!!
IF THERE'S A BRAIN, DOES THAT MEAN THERE'S A STOMACH, TOO? I DON'T THINK I'D WANT TO SEE A HUNGRY GOD.
NYOINK
HE DID HAVE A STOMACH...WHEN HE WAS HUMAN.
YOU SEE, LONG AGO THERE WAS A KING OBSESSED WITH THE QUESTION, "DOES GOD EXIST?"
SO TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION ONCE AND FOR ALL, HE DECIDED TO CREATE THE "ULTIMATE HUMAN."

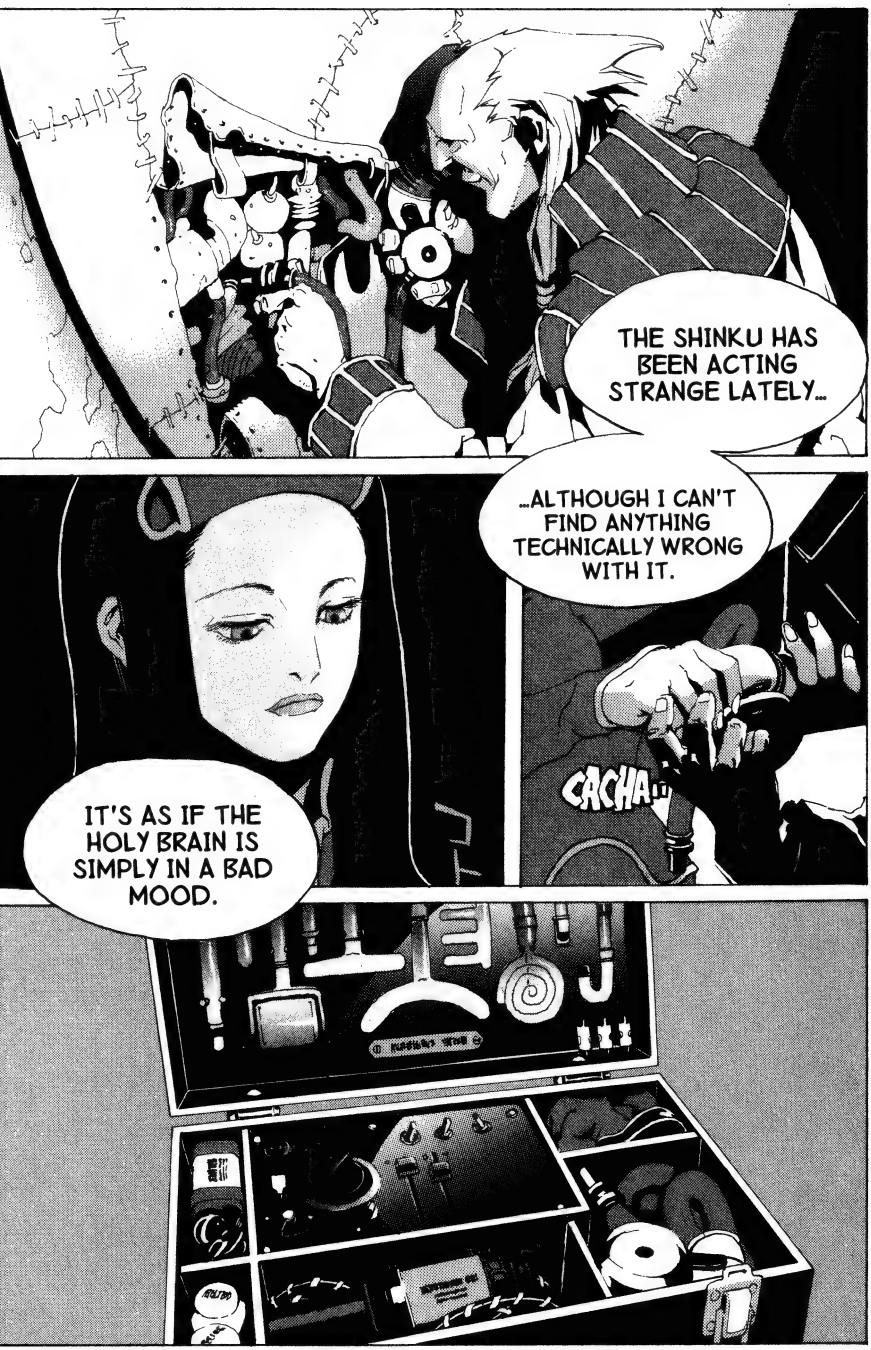
EVENTUALLY, THE BABY GREW INTO A MAN POSSESSED BY GOD.
HE LOCKED A BABY IN A TOWER AND INSTRUCTED HIS SERVANTS ONLY TO TEACH THE CHILD TALES OF GOD AND RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES.
AND?! WHAT WAS THE ANSWER?!!!
IMMEDIATELY, THIS CHILD RAISED ON GOD ANSWERED..
THEN ONE DAY, THE KING FINALLY ASKED THE MAN THE ETERNAL QUESTION: "DOES GOD EXIST?"

YES!! GOD DOES EXIST! FOR I AM GOD...I AM ALL-KNOWING, ALL-POWERFUL GOD!
HO——
HO——

...LEAVING BEHIND A BRAIN STUFFED WITH WISDOM...
THE MAN WHO BECAME GOD EVENTUALLY SETTLED IN RUSTY NAIL, UNTIL HIS BODY GAVE OUT...
...AND THE NAME HE GAVE HIMSELF.
A NAME SO LONG THAT THE PEOPLE BELOW HIM...

...COULD ONLY CALL HIM GOD.
SHH..

SO IT SEEMS GOD'S BODY LIES UNDER HIS NAME!!
MOTEL
4

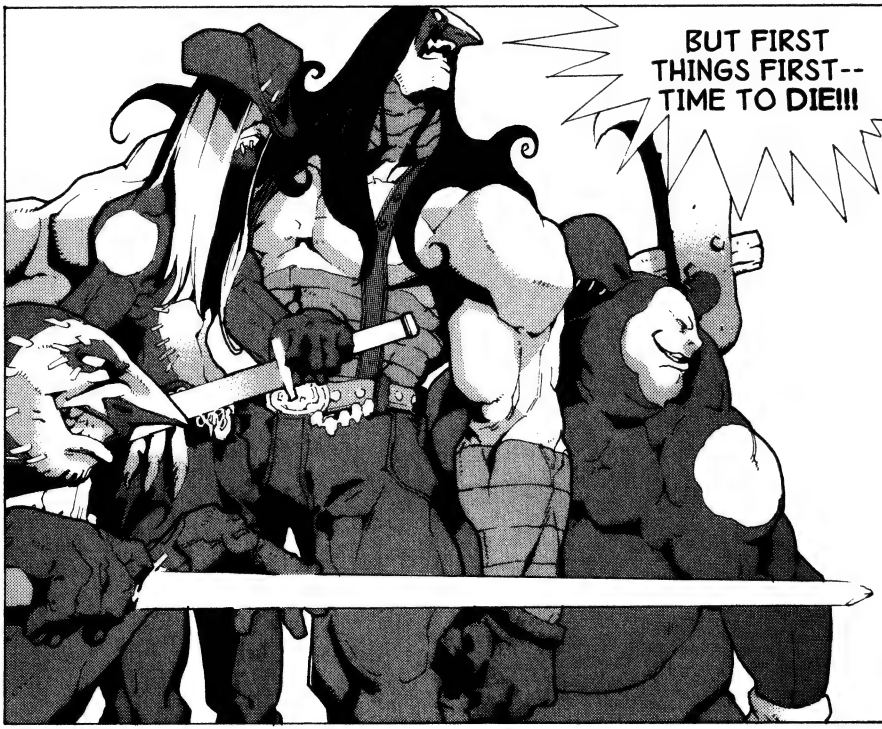

THE SHINKU HAS BEEN ACTING STRANGE LATELY...
...ALTHOUGH I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING TECHNICALLY WRONG WITH IT.
CACHA!!
IT'S AS IF THE HOLY BRAIN IS SIMPLY IN A BAD MOOD.

EVERYTHING IN RUSTY NAIL REVOLVES AROUND THE SHINKU.
IF SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE SHINKU, EVEN THIS WON'T RUN PROPERLY!
KNOCK!
HOW ABOUT NOW, YOU BUCKET-OF-BOLTSBEETLE?!!
VROOM!

I SEE...SO HE WENT TO THE GRAVEYARD.
CAN..
CALL THE SPIRIT OF YOURI!!!

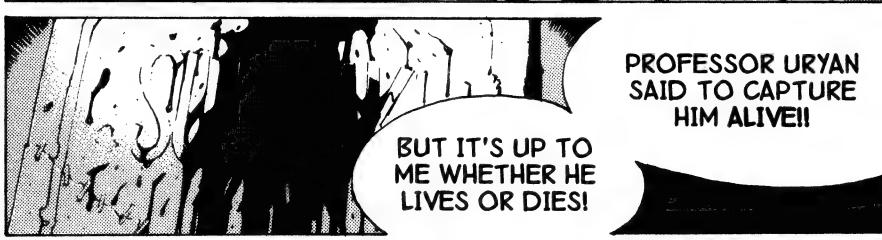
MAN...I'VE NEVER VISITED THE GRAVE OF SOMEONE WHOSE NAME I COULDN'T SAY.
TAP...TAP...
OH, THAT'S EASY. IT'S INSIDE A BELL TOWER IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY. THEY CALL IT THE SHINKU.
BUT JING--WHO CARES ABOUT HIS BODY? I WANNA KNOW WHERE THIS ALL-IMPORTANT BRAIN IS!
SO IT'S LIKE THE WHOLE CITY IS A LIVING ORGANISM...HN?!
!!
LOOKING FOR A GRAVE? ...YOUR OWN, PERHAPS?

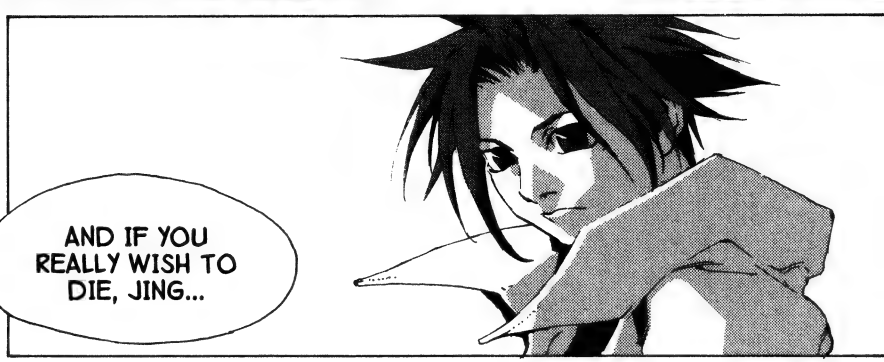
I'VE GOT A REAL NICE SPOT RIGHT HERE...AND I'LL THROW IN THIS COFFIN, FREE OF CHARGE!
NOPE!!!
THOUGH WE CAN'T PROMISE YOU ANY FLOWERS..



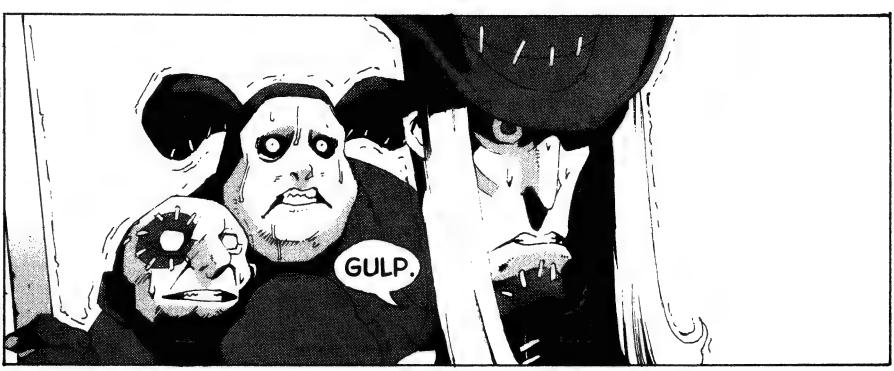
HUNNN

If God had eyes...
...it would give us life, guide and protect us.
The sun itself could be God's eye... Eh?!!


PROFESSOR URYAN SAID TO CAPTURE HIM ALIVE!!
BUT IT'S UP TO ME WHETHER HE LIVES OR DIES!

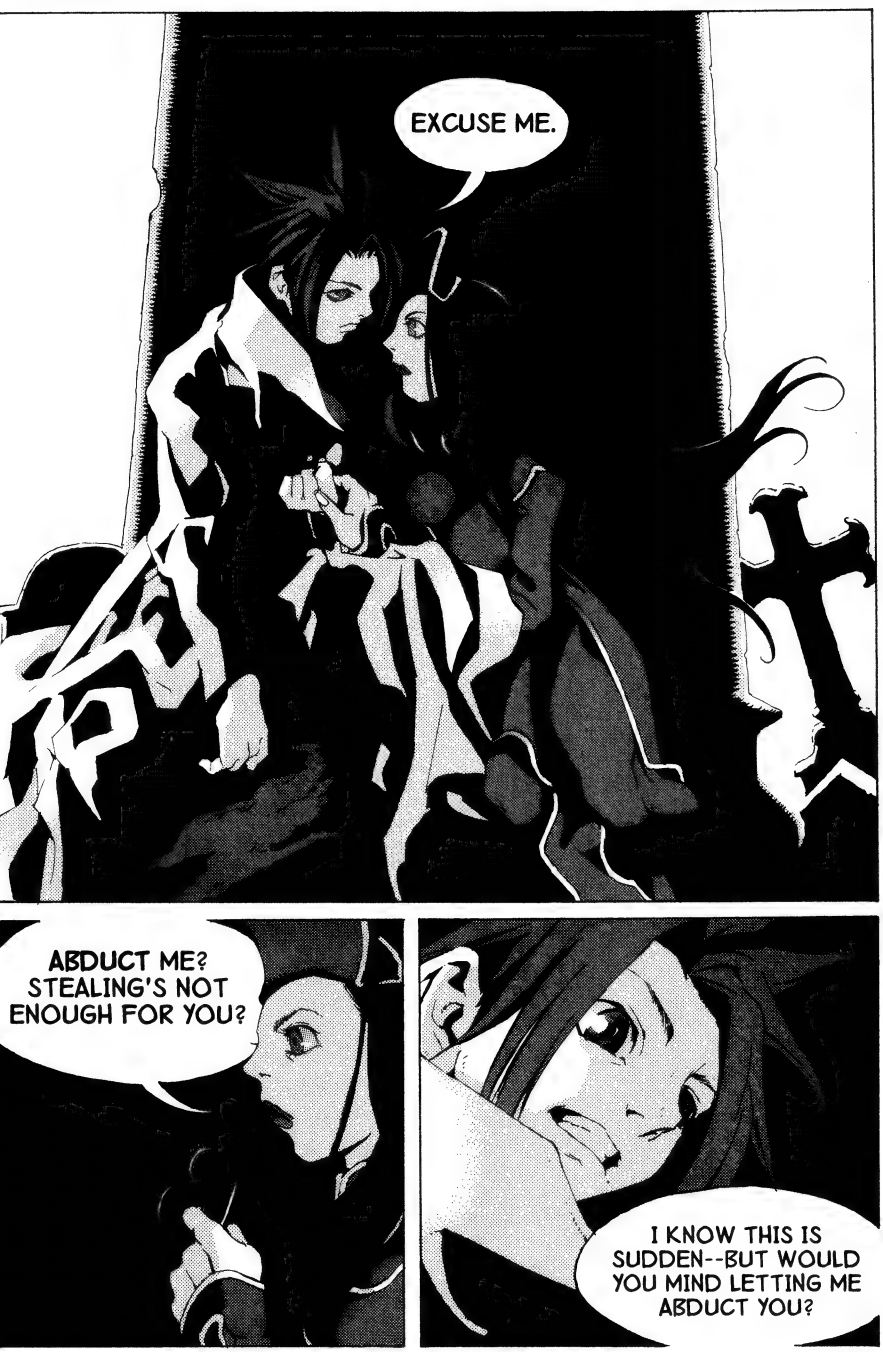

AND IF YOU REALLY WISH TO DIE, JING...

...I'M READY TO DANCE IN A PUDDLE OF YOUR BLOOD.


GULP.

WELL?! STOP SHAKING AND CAPTURE HIM!!

DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!!
OH!!
Cat!

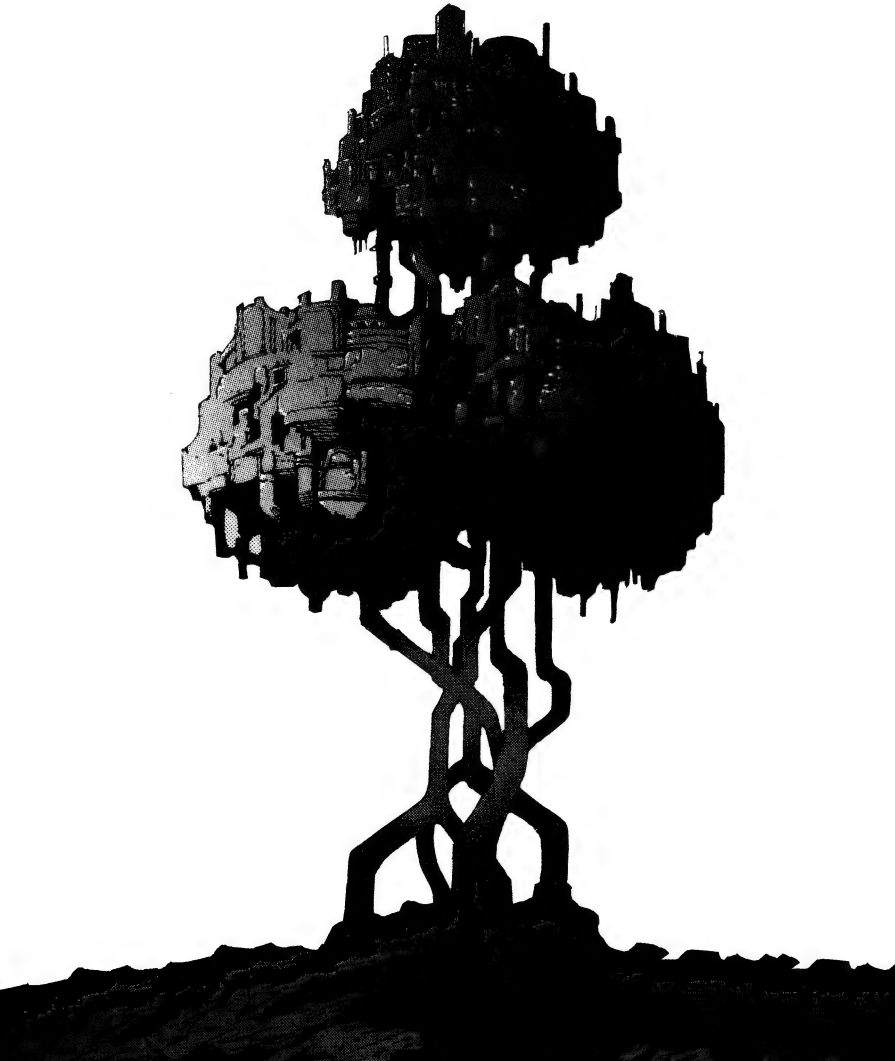

EXCUSE ME.
ABDUCT ME? STEALING'S NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU?
I KNOW THIS IS SUDDEN--BUT WOULD YOU MIND LETTING ME ABDUCT YOU?

WELL--YOU'RE A NURSE, RIGHT? COULD YOU HELP HIM?
ADULT QUARRELS ARE TOO MUCH FOR THIS LITTLE GUY, IT SEEMS.
IS THAT...
...A PORVORA?

WELL, ALL RIGHT--BUT AS SOON AS I HEAL HIM, YOU HAVE TO LEAVE!
YOU MIGHT THINK YOU'VE ESCAPED-- BUT THE PROFESSOR AND THE OTHERS WILL RETURN SOON.
HUFFFFFFFF
HUFFFFFFFF
HUFFFFFFFF
HUFFFFFFFF
THIS IS PROFESSOR URYAN'S HOUSE, YOU REALIZE.
YEAH, I KNOW. I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.

Well, well...good for you.
OH...THAT? IT'S...
AHHH...AN EARTHLY ANGEL WHO HEALS BOTH FRIEND AND FOE. HOW SWEET!
SO...EXACTLY WHOSE X-RAY IS THIS, MISS SHIN LU?

...A PICTURE OF MY MOTHER.
Jing will Return in Volume 2

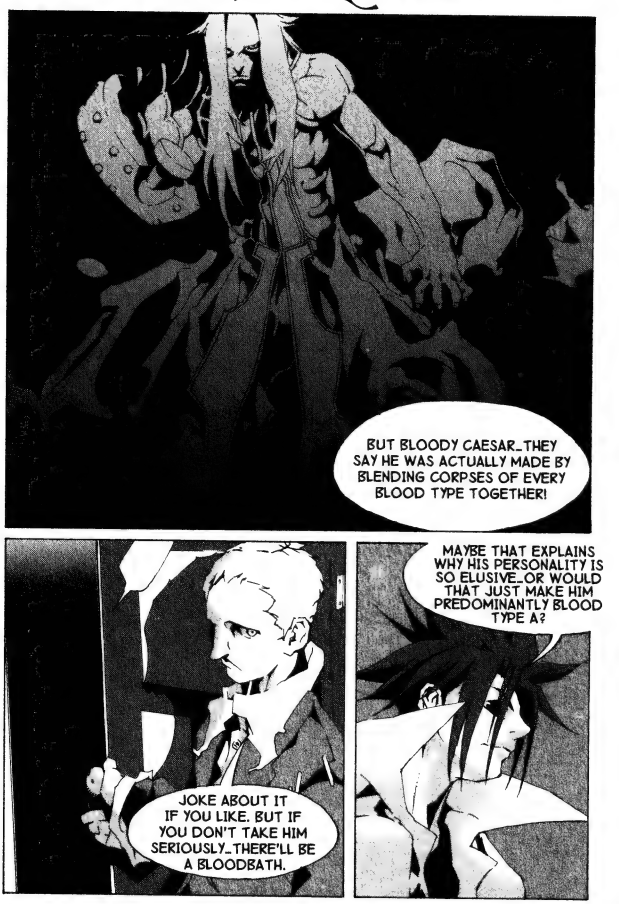


KING OF BANDITS

王ドロボウJING

TWILIGHT TALES

Volume 2 Preview


BUT BLOODY CAESAR...THEY SAY HE WAS ACTUALLY MADE BY BLENDING CORPSES OF EVERY BLOOD TYPE TOGETHER!
JOKE ABOUT IT IF YOU LIKE. BUT IF YOU DON'T TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY...THERE'LL BE A BLOODBATH.
MAYBE THAT EXPLAINS WHY HIS PERSONALITY IS SO ELUSIVE...OR WOULD THAT JUST MAKE HIM PREDOMINANTLY BLOOD TYPE A?

Rusty Nail is a city with an unusual motto: Give me your tired, your poor, your extra body parts! It's a town that specializes in providing spare limbs to those in need. Rusty Nail's biggest patron is the monstrous Bloody Caesar, a creature composed of more than 30 different people...with room left over for a bit of Jing!

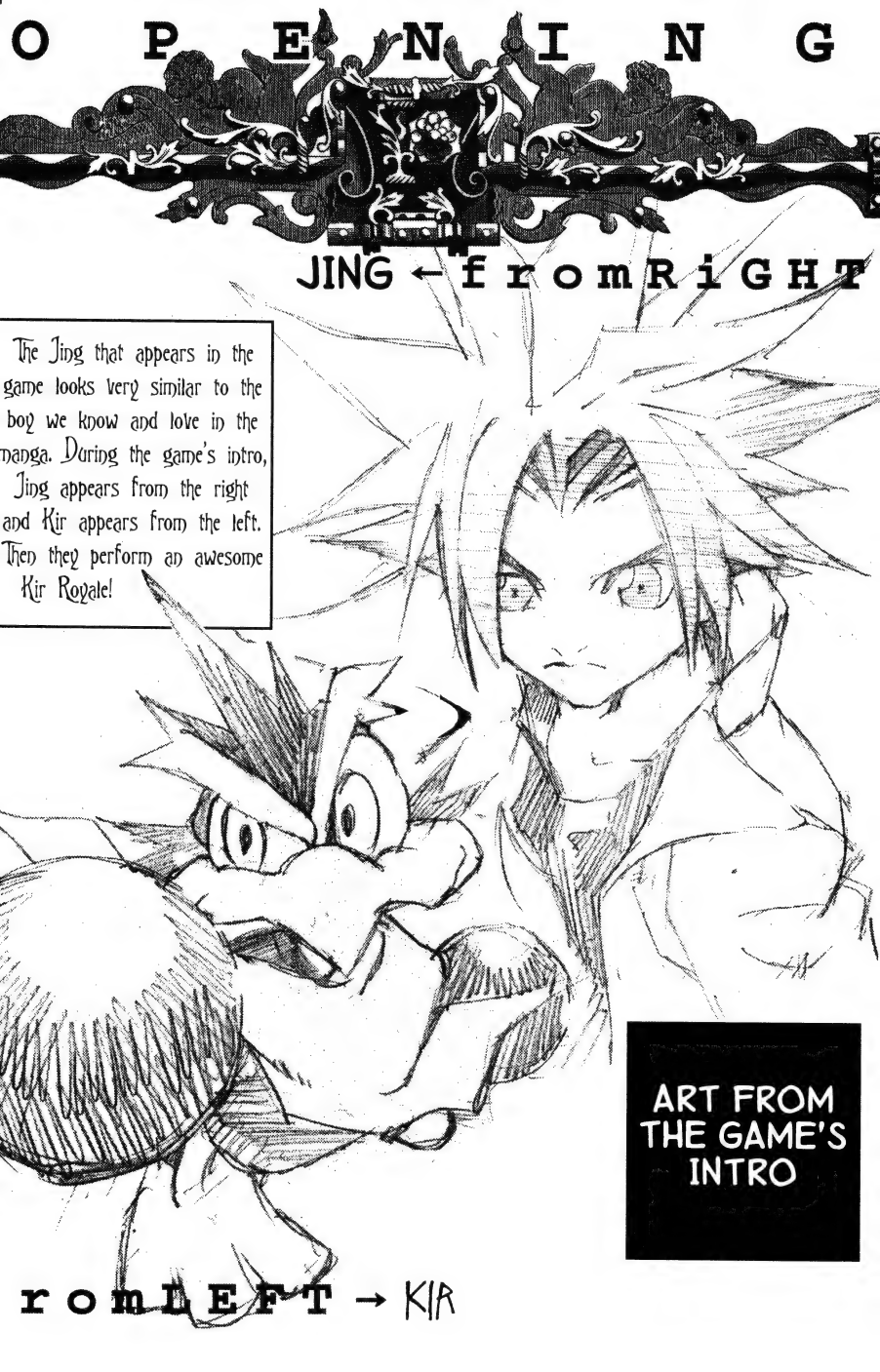
BEWARE, JING! BLOOD CAESAR WILL TEAR YOU APART!
WHEN HE'S FINISHED WITH YOU, CAN I PLEASE HAVE YOUR SKIN?

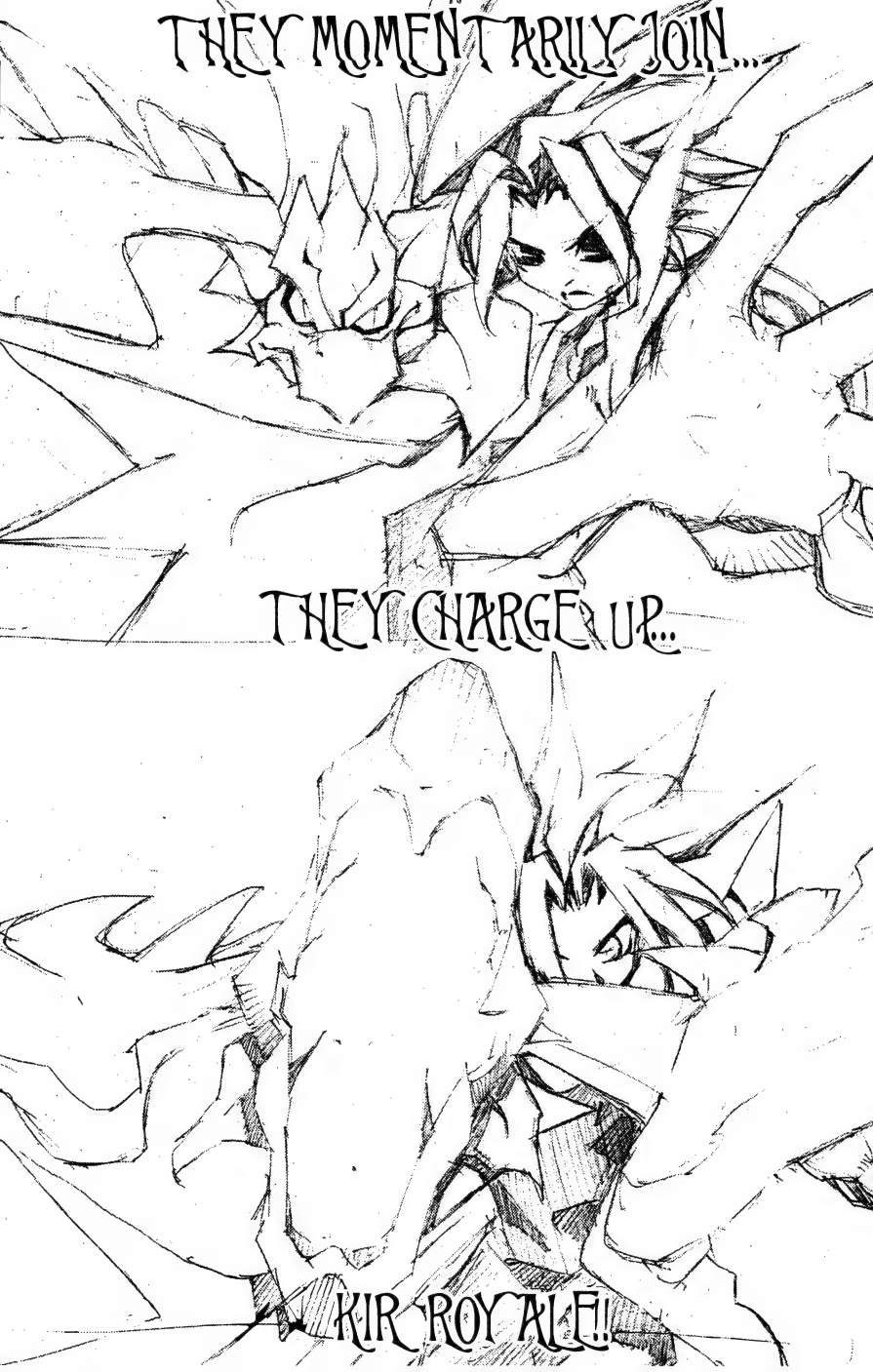
ALL ABOUT THE GAME BOY GAME VERSION OF *JING: KING OF BANDITS*

In Japan, a videogame version of *Jing: King of Bandits* was released by Messiah on the Game Boy in 1999! Awww, no fair! They always get the coolest games in Japan, huh?

The game's plot is based on the very first 7 volumes of *Jing*. Many characters from the manga make an appearance in the game. In addition, there are over 200 original monster designs created by Yuichi Kumakura that can be found in the adventure! In this section, we'd like to show you a few concept sketches that were created during the game's design!

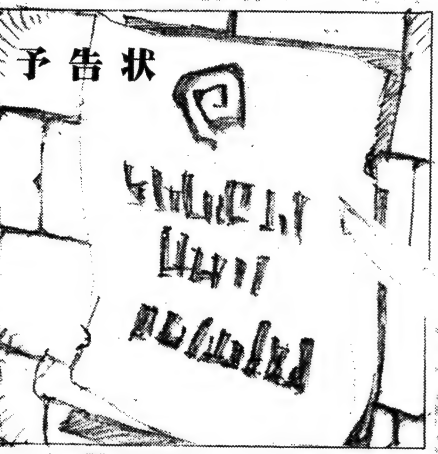
OPENING


JING ← from RIGHT
The Jing that appears in the game looks very similar to the boy we know and love in the manga. During the game's intro, Jing appears from the right and Kir appears from the left. Then they perform an awesome Kir Royale!
ART FROM THE GAME'S INTRO
from LEFT → KIR


THEY MOMENTARILY JOIN...
THEY CHARGE UP...
KIR ROYALE!!

JING & KIR

The game takes place in the world of Aquavitae—an original term for whiskey. When the intro ends, Jing appears either in the City of Malt as his "Angel Version" or the City of Grain as his "Devil Version," and leaves a warning as follows...



Angel Version

"EVEN GOD WILL BE FOOLED...AQUAVITAE IS MINE!"

Devil Version

"HELL'S JUDGMENT DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH MONEY YOU HAVE. I WILL TAKE AQUAVITAE."

All the faces depicted in the game's "talking-windows" scenes were specially drawn. You can really see the Kumakura style, in even the goofy faces.

Basic Version of Kir.
Kir always looks relaxed...or drunk.

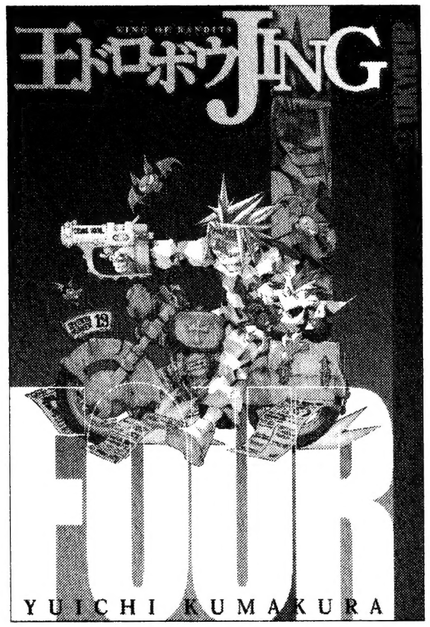
Basic Version of Jing.
He always has that confident look!

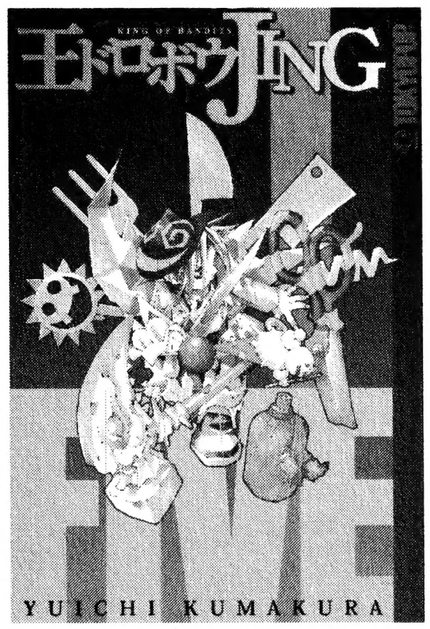
HEY!! JING!! ARE WE BEING SENT TO PRISON?!!

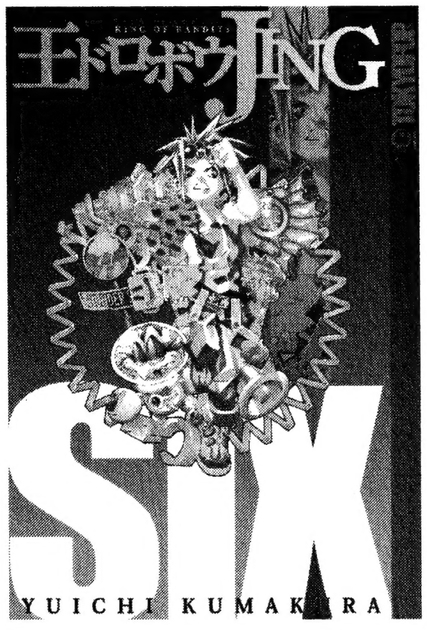
So is the King of Bandits' clean criminal record coming to an end?

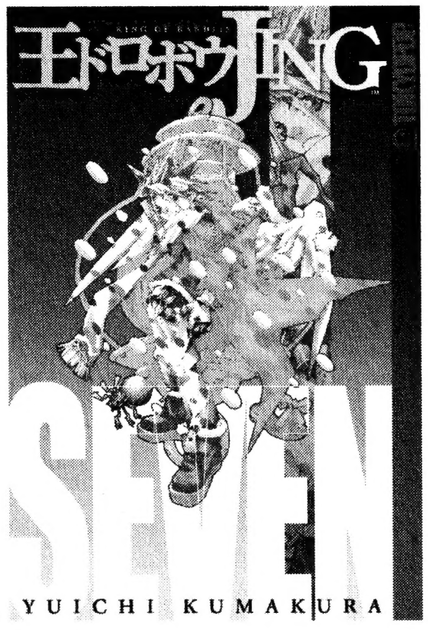
Collect Them All!

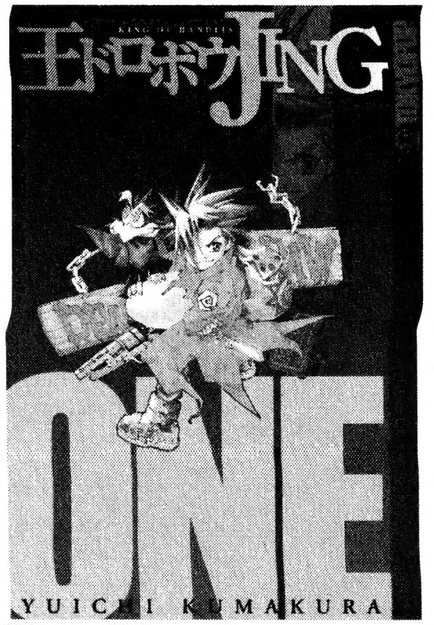
But don't steal them like Jing.
Please, BUY them at a
retailer near you!

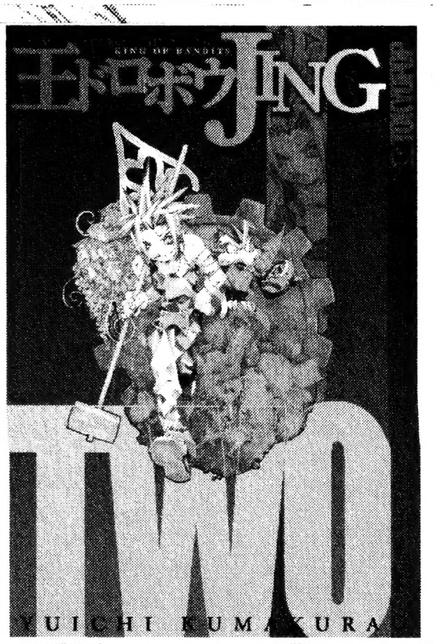


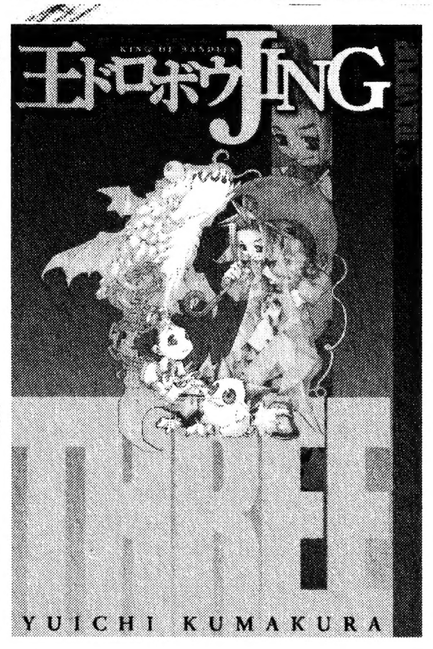




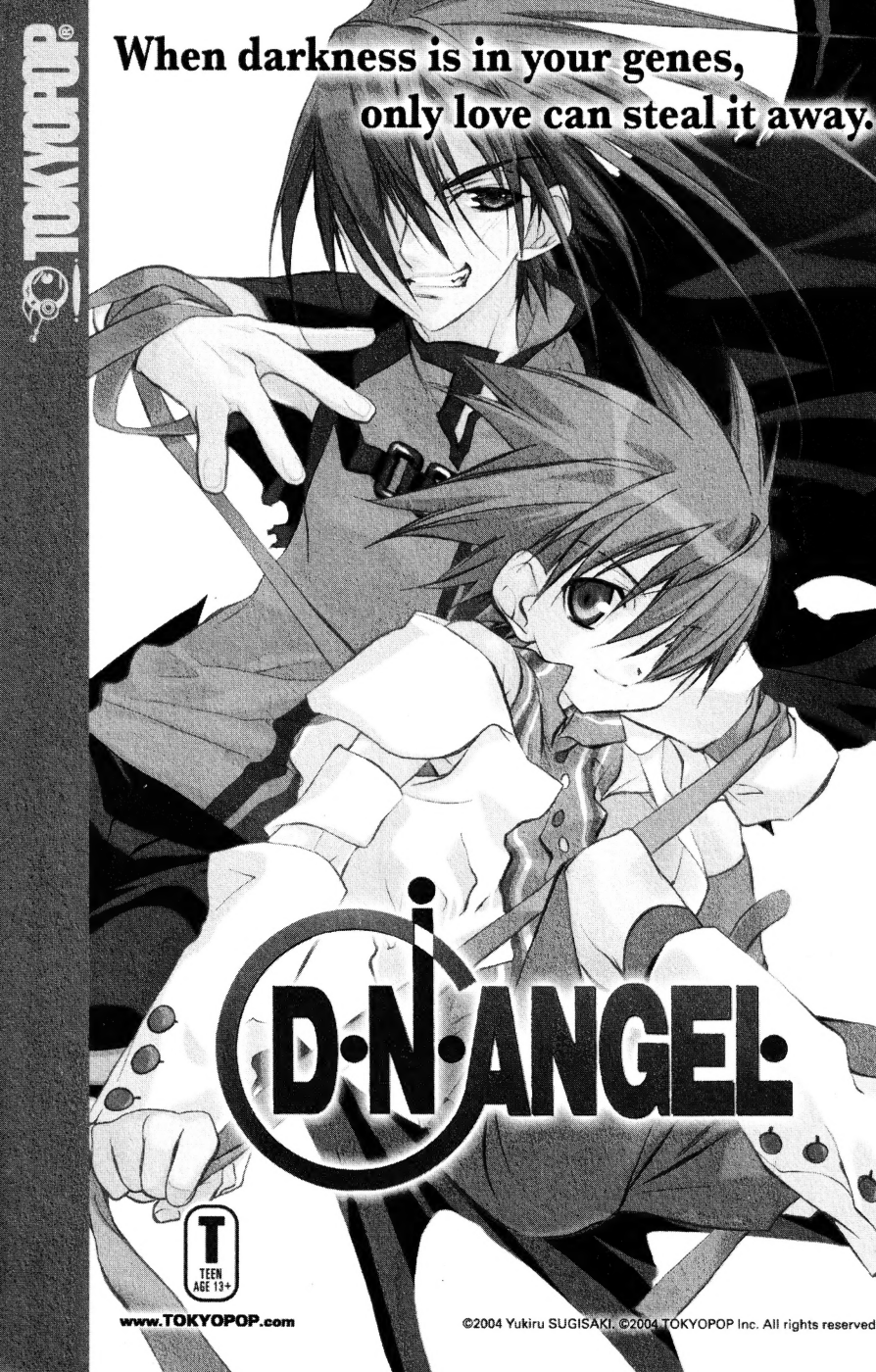








Was this your first fantastical foray into the world of Jing? Did he completely steal your heart? Well, you've come to the party late, my friend! Oodles of fans have already fueled their hunger for filching by reading Jing's first series. That's right! There are 7 volumes of the previous *Jing: The King of Bandits* series just waiting to fall into your eager fingers!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